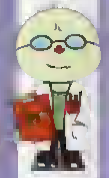
のらみみ⑦
原一雄



IKKI COMIX
小学館
IKKI440

IKKI COMIX

居候キャラの悩みを解決してやったり、
ふらふらしてるドッタリの面倒見てやったり、
あちこちで大忙しののらみみです。
ハローキッズの更科
さんが最近すこしぼんやり
してて心配ですが、居候先が
見つからないことに慣れた
おいら自身がもっと心配です。

原一雄

ぷっち

7

のらみみ⑦目次

ドッタリ君のはじめてのおつかい……(005)

お別れのしくみ……(027)

エアスイミング……(049)

居候の部屋……(071)

3匹のこぼうず……(095)

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古い居候の世界・前編……(117)

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のらみみ大充実……(186)

DOTTARI'S FIRST ERRAND

.....
.....
MR.CELLPHONE, MR.CELLPHONE, WHAT NICE WEATHER WE HAVE TODAY...
USHISHI SHISHI..
I'LL FORGIVE YOU FOR NOW BUT ..
SINCE YOU'RE TAIZOU'S FRIEND AND ALL,
WHAT TERRIBLE ATTITUDE YOU HAVE FOR A MERE UNDER-LING!
HMPH, IGNORING ME...!?
4
DOTTARI'S THIIISS CLOSE TO LOSING HIS TEMPER!!!
IF YOU KEEP UP THAT ATTITUDE, DOTTARI'S GONNA GET REAL MAD!

A-AHHH! HIS SPASMS ARE STARTING UP AGAIN
HIS HEART-BEAT...
ピ
TAIZOU TOLD ME TO GIVE HIM A HEART MASSAGE BY PUSHING THIS BUTTON...
LET'S SEE... TO STOP HIS SPASMS,
着信
タイミ

2

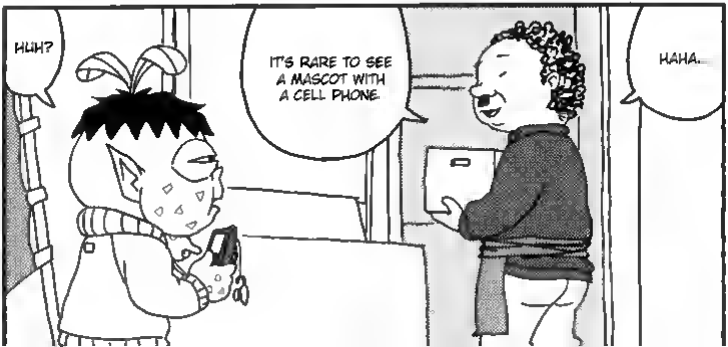
DOTTARI'S FIRST ERRAND

*JAPANESE SWEET, AS PICTURED ON HIS CELLPHONE

Y-YES, MONAKA IS YOUR FAVOURITE, ISN'T IT?
DOTTARI LIKES EATING MONAKA TOO
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE STORE AND BUY SOME MONAKA*, REMEMBER?
W-WHA...? IT'S TAIZOU'S VOICE...

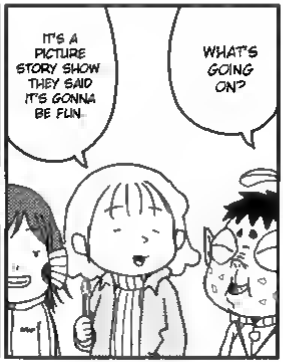
B-BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'LL FORGIVE YOU YET! YOU STILL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT ROTTEN ATTITUDE OF YOURS!
THAT'S RIGHT DOTTARI WAS ON AN ERRAND...
DON'T GET DISTRACTED AFTER YOU BUY IT. FINISH OFF YOUR ERRANDS FIRST!
YOU PRETENDED TO BE TAIZOU FOR A SECOND TO REMIND ME THAT, DIDN'T YOU...
MR CELL-PHONE

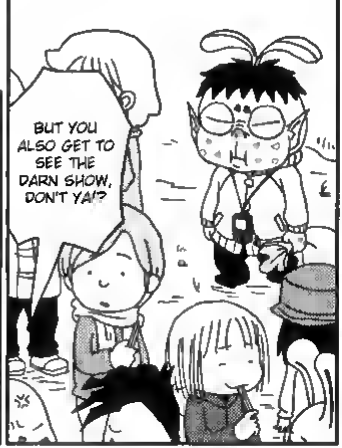
3

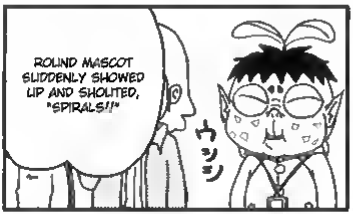


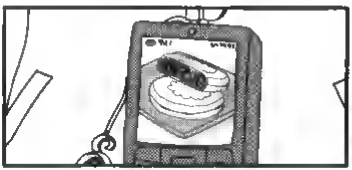
MY, MY
THIS IS PROVING TO BE A MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TASK THAN I THOUGHT.
TAIZOU TOLD DOTTARI TO RUN ON AN ERRAND WITH MR CELL PHONE BUT,
THE HELLO KID'S PICTURE STORY SHOW IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
HELLO KID'S PICTURE STORY SHOW
COME, COME MY FRIENDS AND TAKE A LOOK!
W-WHAT!? THAT'S WAY TOO EXPENSIVE FOR SO LITTLE!
THAT'LL BE 300 YEN.
BUT YOU HAVE TO BUY SOME SYRUP IF YOU WANT TO SEE THE SHOW!
OK THEN
IT'LL BE A LOT OF FUN!

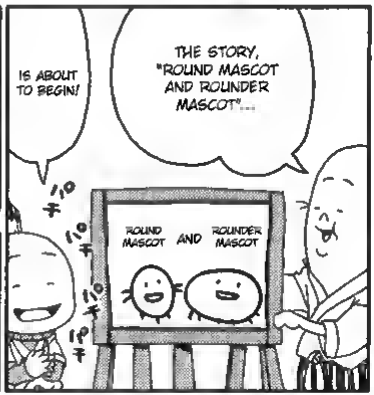
FUN!!? THEN DOTTA!! WILL DEFINITELY STAY AND WATCH


IT'S A PICTURE STORY SHOW THEY SAID IT'S GONNA BE FUN.
WHAT'S GOING ON?


BUT YOU ALSO GET TO SEE THE DARN SHOW, DON'T YA!?

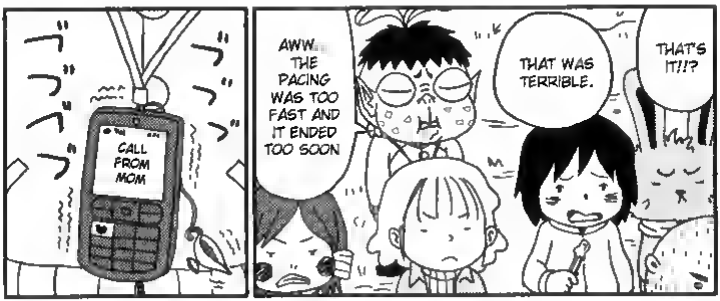

ROUND MASCOT SUDDENLY SHOWED UP AND SHOUTED, "SPIRALS!!"

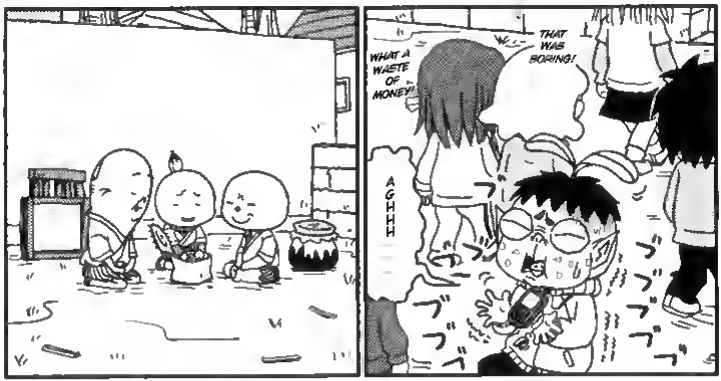



THE STORY, "ROUND MASCOT AND ROUNDER MASCOT"...
IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
ROUND MASCOT
AND
ROUNDER MASCOT

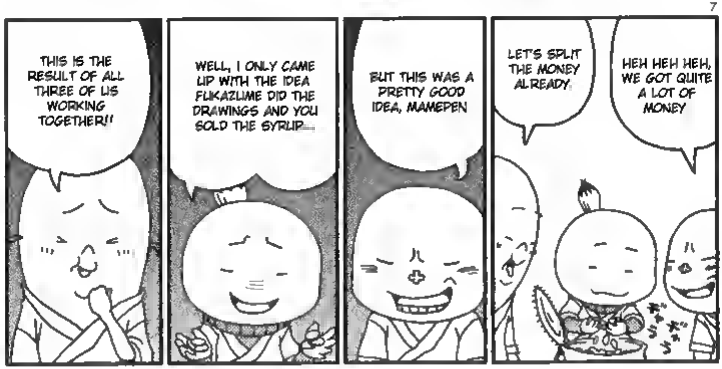
HE'S MAKING A DIFFERENT SOUND THAN BEFORE...
CALL FROM MOM
SPASMS AGAIN...?

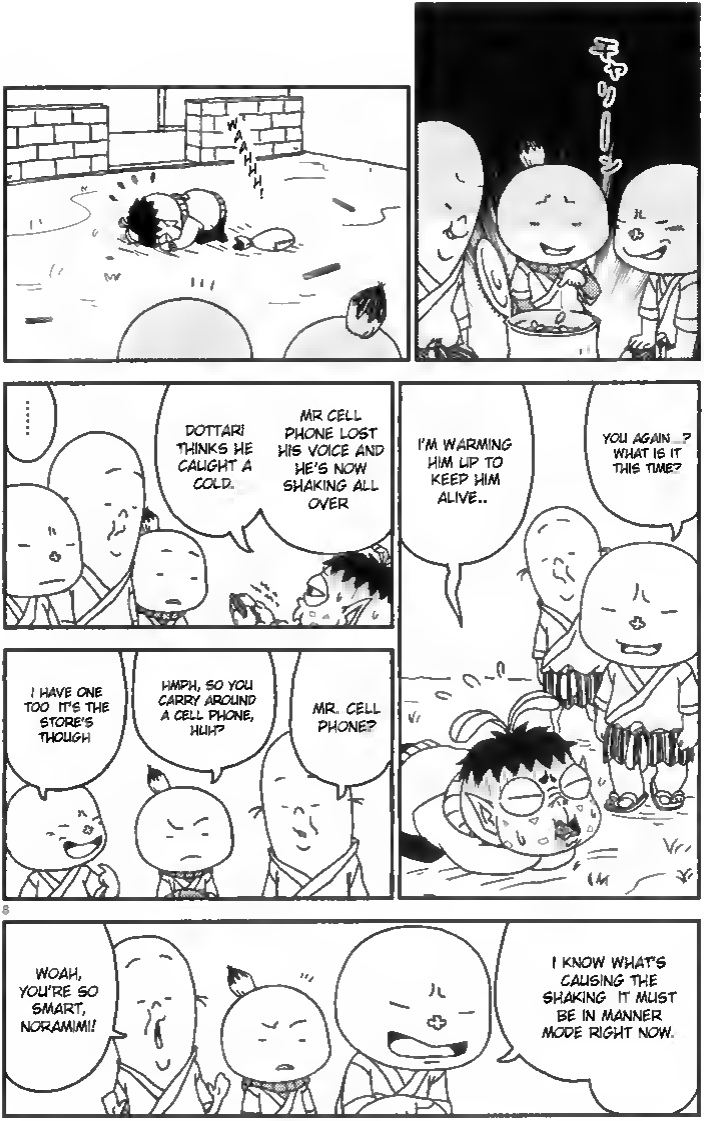
AH..
DOTTARI'S WATCHING A PICTURE STORY SHOW RIGHT NOW. WE CAN TALK LATER
MR CELL PHONE, BE QUIET!!
HEY, BE QUIET!
HMPH, YOU NEED TO LEARN SOME MANNERS!
DOTTARI DOESN'T KNOW...
JEEZ, JUST CHANGE IT TO MANNER MODE!!
USHISHI
MANURR MODE?
WASN'T IT FUN?
THE END!
AND SO SUPER-ROUNDERMAN HEADED BACK TOWARDS THE EARTH


ブブブブ
CALL FROM MOM
AWW... THE PACING WAS TOO FAST AND IT ENDED TOO SOON
THAT WAS TERRIBLE.
THAT'S IT!!?


WHAT A WASTE OF MONEY!
THAT WAS BORING!
AGHHH
ブブブブブ

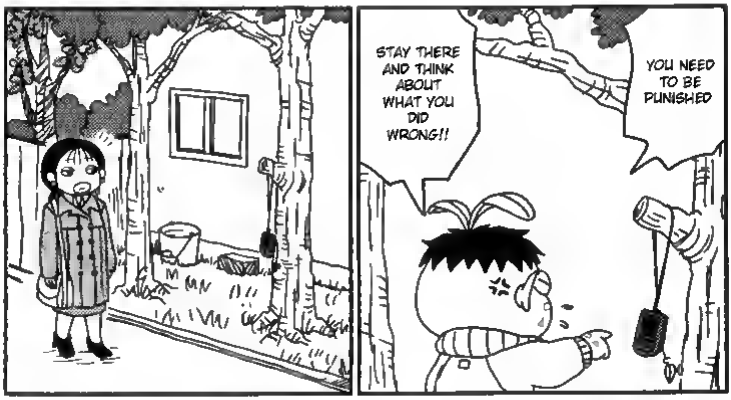
7

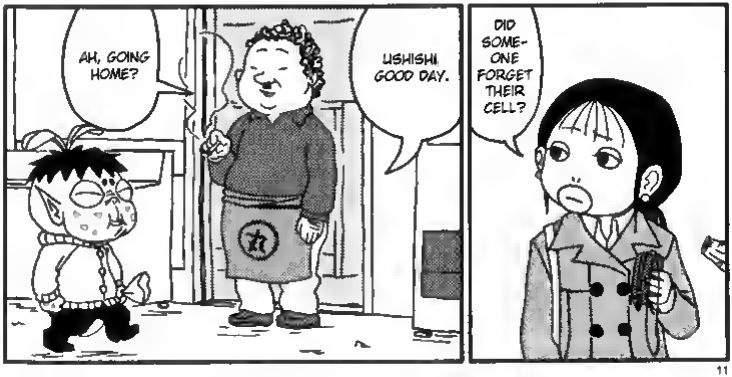

THIS IS THE RESULT OF ALL THREE OF US WORKING TOGETHER!!
WELL, I ONLY CAME UP WITH THE IDEA FUKAZUME DID THE DRAWINGS AND YOU SOLD THE SYRUP...
BUT THIS WAS A PRETTY GOOD IDEA, MAMEPEN
LET'S SPLIT THE MONEY ALREADY.
HEH HEH HEH, WE GOT QUITE A LOT OF MONEY

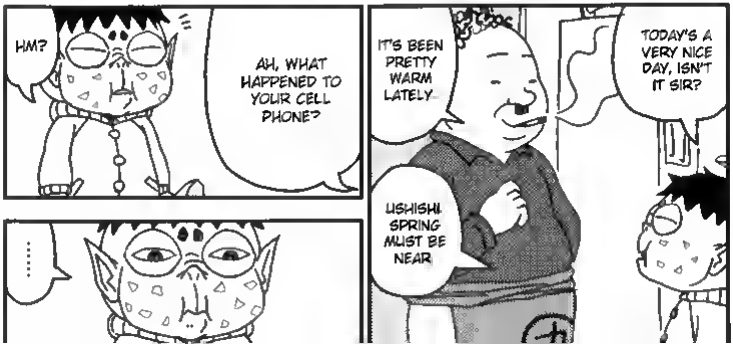

WAHHH!
ドッジョーン
.....
DOTTARI THINKS HE CAUGHT A COLD.
MR CELL PHONE LOST HIS VOICE AND HE'S NOW SHAKING ALL OVER
I'M WARMING HIM UP TO KEEP HIM ALIVE..
YOU AGAIN...? WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?
I HAVE ONE TOO. IT'S THE STORE'S THOUGH
HMPH, SO YOU CARRY AROUND A CELL PHONE, HUH?
MR. CELL PHONE?
WOAH, YOU'RE SO SMART, NORAMI!!
I KNOW WHAT'S CAUSING THE SHAKING. IT MUST BE IN MANNER MODE RIGHT NOW.

IT'S NOT SICK. HERE, GIVE IT TO ME FOR A SECOND
U-UMM, IT'S TO FIX IT BACK TO NORMAL. YOU GOTTA TAKE IT APART AND PUT IT BACK TOGETHER.
WHY IS THERE 3 OF IT NOW?
MR. CELL PHONE..
DOTTAR! IS VERY THANK-FUL TO YOU..
THAT'S GOOD THEN
H-HERE, IT SHOULD BE FINE NOW

IT'S SUCH A NICE DAY OUT TODAY..
UISHISHI WAKEY, WAKEY, MR CELL PHONE
MR CELL PHONE, WHERE ARE YOU HIDING THE MONAKA THAT USED TO BE HERE?
SOMETHING STILL SEEMS STRANGE
AT LEAST SAY THANK YOU!!
EVEN THOUGH DOTTARI WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU,
HMPH, STILL IGNORING DOTTARI?
.....
10
DOTTARI IS REAL MAD NOW!!
DON'T THINK DOTTARI WILL GO EASY ON YOU BECAUSE YOU WERE SICK!

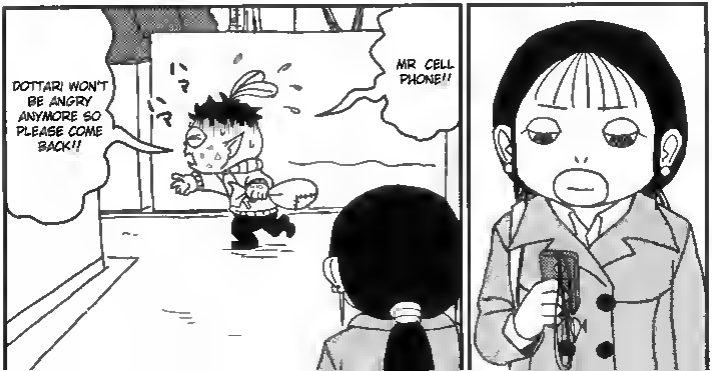

STAY THERE AND THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU DID WRONG!!
YOU NEED TO BE PUNISHED


AH, GOING HOME?
USHISHI. GOOD DAY.
DID SOME-ONE FORGET THEIR CELL?


HM?
AH, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR CELL PHONE?
IT'S BEEN PRETTY WARM LATELY.
TODAY'S A VERY NICE DAY, ISN'T IT SIR?
USHISHI. SPRING MUST BE NEAR.
.....

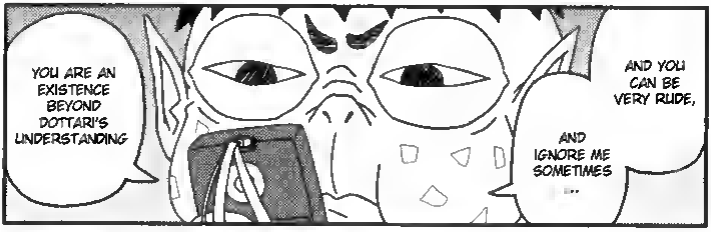
LET'S TRY TURNING IT ON
MR. CELL PHONE RAN AWAY!!!
AHH!!!
WHEN DID HE...!!!
ドドド
ピ
ピ
ピ
ピ
ピ
ADDRESS
SAITOU FAMILY
TAIZOU
PAPA
MAMA
PROFILE
DOTTARI
09000006
ushishi@k

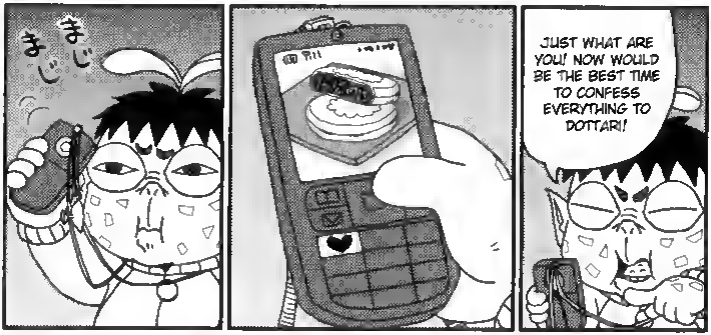
12

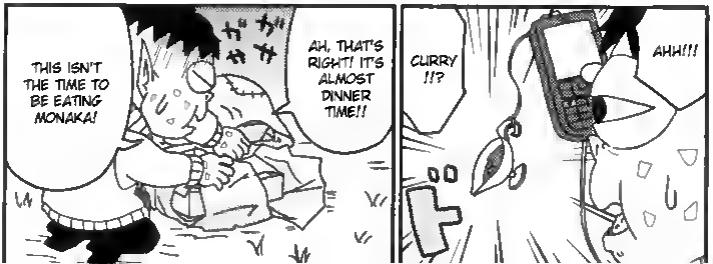

DOTTARI WON'T BE ANGRY ANYMORE SO PLEASE COME BACK!!
MR CELL PHONE!!

AH, THAT'S RIGHT! DOTTARI WAS SUPPOSED TO BUY SOME MONAKA
WHEW, THAT WAS QUITE THE TROUBLE INDEED.
A GREAT SUCCESS FOR DOTTARI'S FIRST ERRAND!
USHISHI
THERE'S LOTS OF MONAKA INSIDE DOTTARI'S RAGGEDY BAG.
ウシシ
ほそめ堂
ありがとうございました

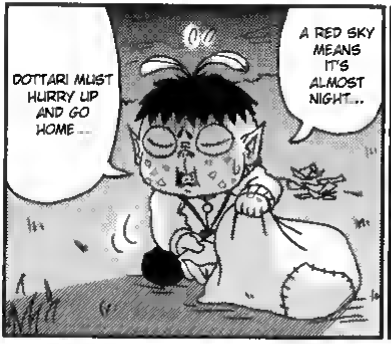
BUT MR CELL PHONE, YOU SURE ARE A STRANGE FELLOW..
AFTER YOUR SPASMS, YOU CAN TALK LIKE TAIZOU,
AND SOME-TIMES LIKE MAMA...


AND YOU CAN BE VERY RUDE,
AND IGNORE ME SOMETIMES...
YOU ARE AN EXISTENCE BEYOND DOTTARI'S UNDERSTANDING


まじ
まじ
JUST WHAT ARE YOU! NOW WOULD BE THE BEST TIME TO CONFESS EVERYTHING TO DOTTARI!


AHH!!!
CURRY !!?
AH, THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S ALMOST DINNER TIME!!
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE EATING MONAKA!

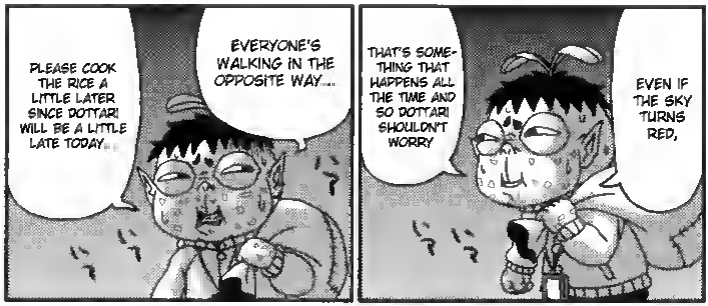
THE SKY...
IS TURNING RED...

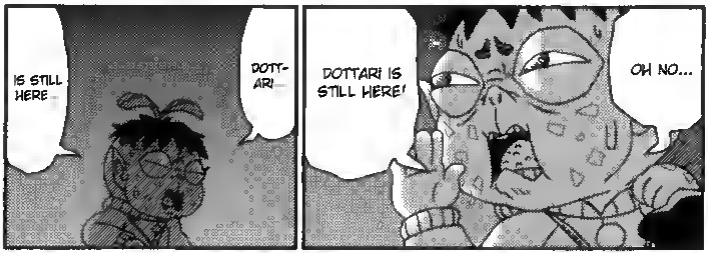

A RED SKY MEANS IT'S ALMOST NIGHT...
DOTTARI MUST HURRY UP AND GO HOME...

THAT'S NOT A GOOD SIGN...
A VERY VERY BAD SIGN INDEED..
あわわわ

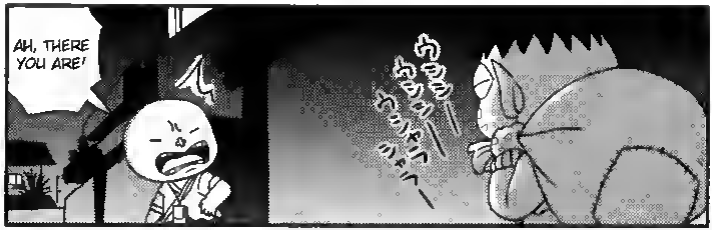
16

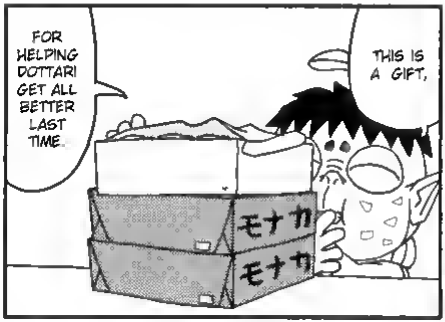
USHISHI..
DOTTARI WILL STAY CALM.


PLEASE COOK THE RICE A LITTLE LATER SINCE DOTTARI WILL BE A LITTLE LATE TODAY...
EVERYONE'S WALKING IN THE OPPOSITE WAY...
THAT'S SOMETHING THAT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME AND SO DOTTARI SHOULDN'T WORRY
EVEN IF THE SKY TURNS RED,

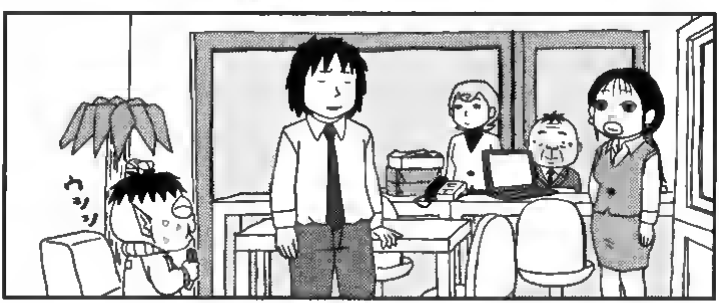

IS STILL HERE...
DOTT-ARI—
DOTTARI IS STILL HERE!
OH NO...

IS MR. CELL PHONE SINGING TO CHEER UP DOTTARI...?
MR. CELL PHONE IS SINGING
HMM... DOTTARI HAS HEARD OF PEOPLE SINGING,
WHEN THINGS ARE TOUGH...
INCOMING CALL
0809999


AH, THERE YOU ARE!
ウヴヴヴ


FOR HELPING DOTTARI GET ALL BETTER LAST TIME.
THIS IS A GIFT,
モナカ
モナカ

AND TAIZOU CAN RELAX WHEREVER DOTTARI GOES.
USHISHI NOW THAT I HAVE MR CELL PHONE WITH ME, RUNNING ERRANDS HAS BECOME EASIER



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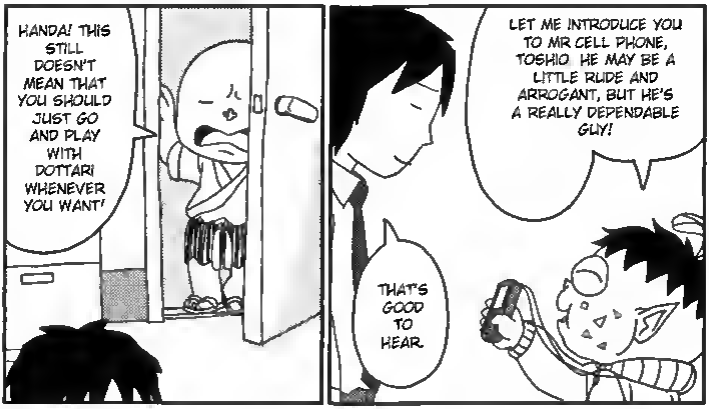
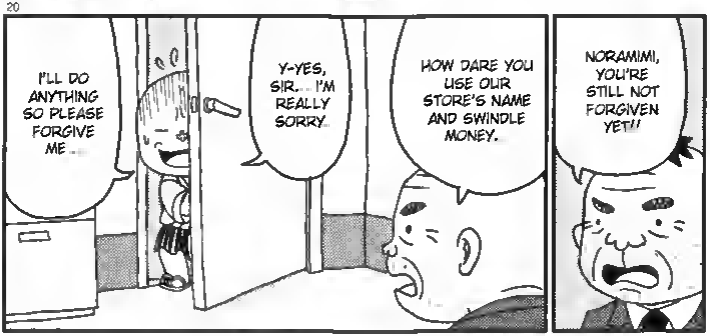
I THINK THAT'S WHAT THIS ALL MEANS, HANDA
IT'S ALRIGHT EVEN IF HE COMES HERE FROM TIME TO TIME...
SO BASICALLY... SINCE TAIZOU CAN CONTACT DOTTARI ANYTIME NOW,

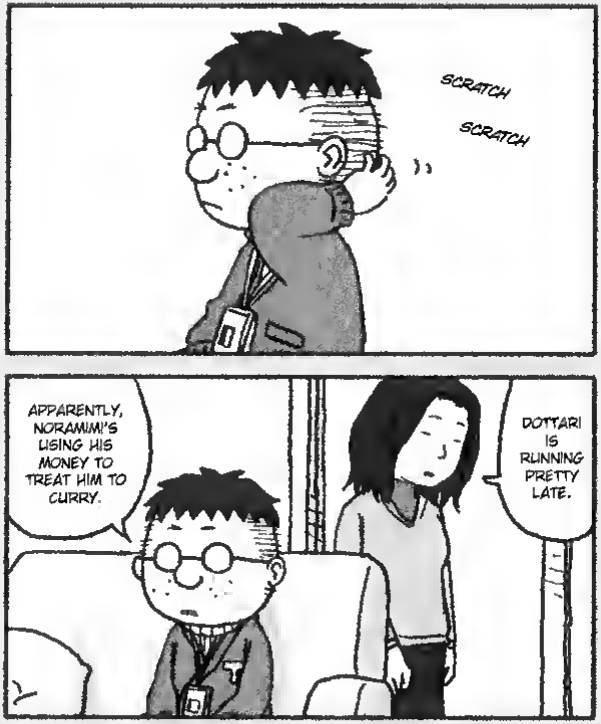
I SEE ..

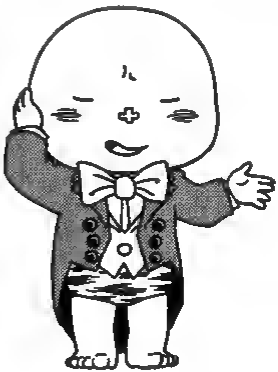

HANDA! THIS STILL DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU SHOULD JUST GO AND PLAY WITH DOTTARI WHENEVER YOU WANT!
LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO MR CELL PHONE, TOSHIO. HE MAY BE A LITTLE RUDE AND ARROGANT, BUT HE'S A REALLY DEPENDABLE GUY!
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.

20

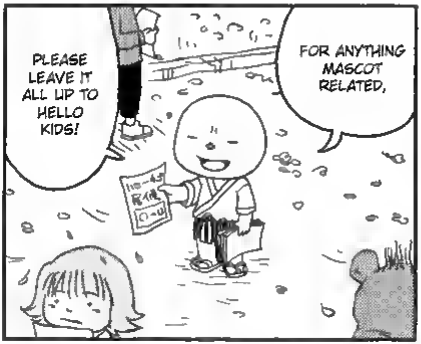

I'LL DO ANYTHING SO PLEASE FORGIVE ME...
Y-YES, SIR... I'M REALLY SORRY.
HOW DARE YOU USE OUR STORE'S NAME AND SWINDLE MONEY.
NORAMIMI, YOU'RE STILL NOT FORGIVEN YET!!

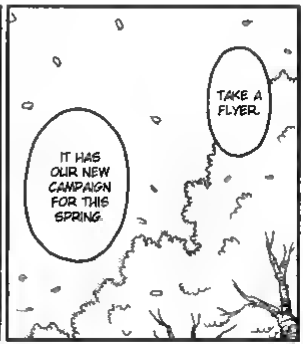
MEANWHILE...


SCRATCH
SCRATCH
APPARENTLY, NORAMIMI'S USING HIS MONEY TO TREAT HIM TO CURRY.
DOTTARI IS RUNNING PRETTY LATE.



TRANSLATED BY HOX


PLEASE LEAVE IT ALL UP TO HELLO KIDS!
FOR ANYTHING MASCOT RELATED,


IT HAS OUR NEW CAMPAIGN FOR THIS SPRING.
TAKE A FLYER.

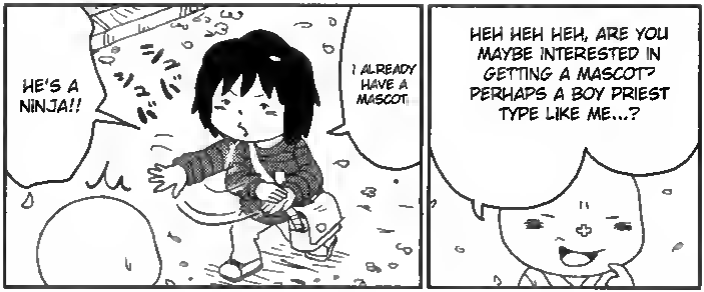
BASICALLY WHAT WE DO IS FIND A NEW FAMILY FOR MASCOTS WHO'VE SAID GOOD BYES TO THEIR KIDS...
OH THAT...?
AND OUR STORE WILL FIND THE MOST IDEAL MASCOT FOR EACH KID.

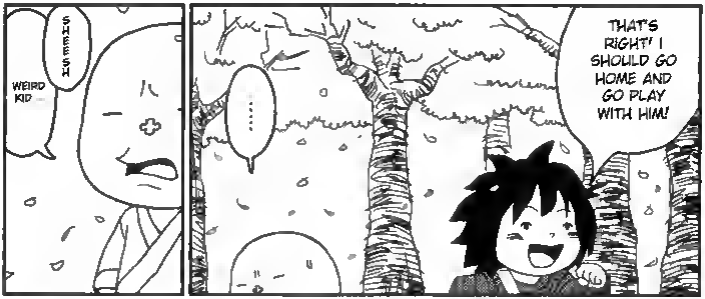
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU GUYS DO WITH MASCOTS?
HEY, HEY! WHAT'S THIS FREELOADING INTRODUCTION THING ALL ABOUT?

1

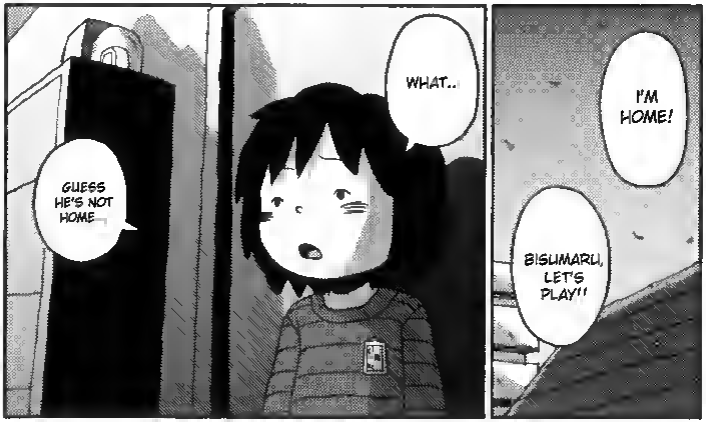
AH, YEAH...
IT'S KIND OF RARE TO SEE A KID WHO DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT A MASCOT INTRODUCTION AGENCY THESE DAYS...

YOU COULD PICK AND CHOOSE FROM EVERY TYPE OF MASCOT!
WOAHHH! THERE'S ACTUALLY A STORE LIKE THAT IN THIS WORLD!?


HE'S A NINJA!!
I ALREADY HAVE A MASCOT.
HEH HEH HEH, ARE YOU MAYBE INTERESTED IN GETTING A MASCOT? PERHAPS A BOY PRIEST TYPE LIKE ME...?

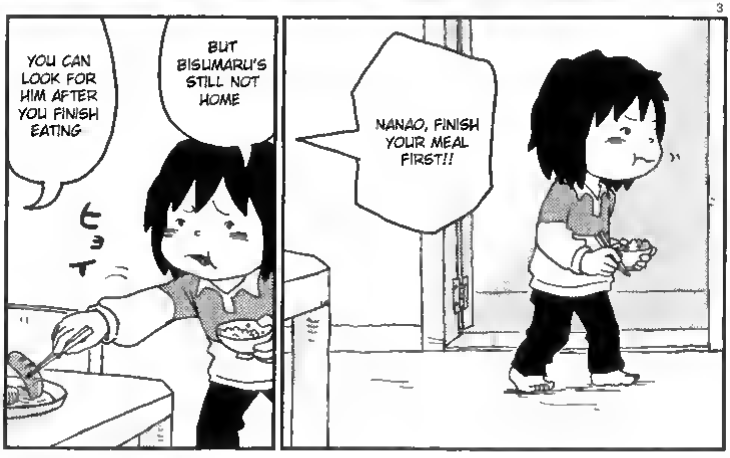

SNIFF
WEIRD KID
.....
THAT'S RIGHT! I SHOULD GO HOME AND GO PLAY WITH HIM!

2


GUESS HE'S NOT HOME
WHAT..
I'M HOME!
BISUMARU, LET'S PLAY!!

GOOD BYE PLAN
BISUMARU!!!

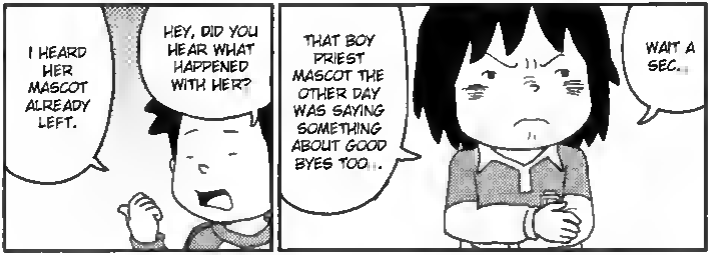
3


YOU CAN LOOK FOR HIM AFTER YOU FINISH EATING
BUT BISUMARU'S STILL NOT HOME
ヒョイ
NANAO, FINISH YOUR MEAL FIRST!!

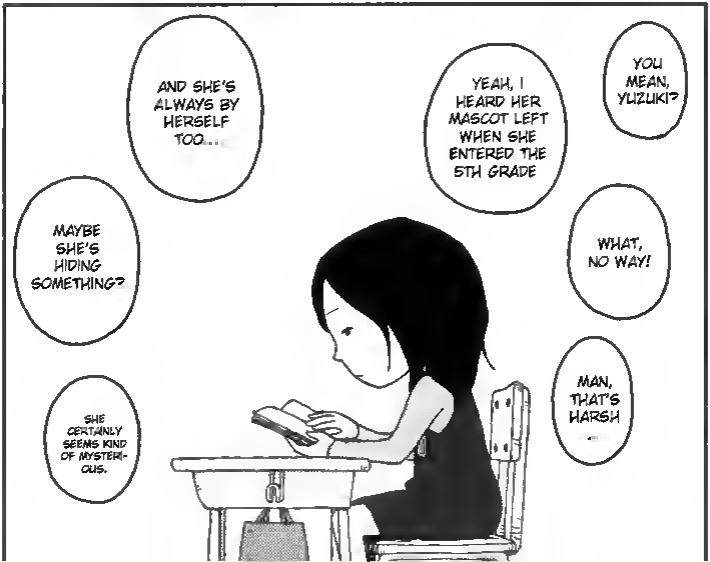
MMM, THE FOOD KIND OF TASTES BETTER IF I EAT WHILE STANDING UP.
YOU'RE ALREADY IN THE 6TH GRADE! YOU NEED TO ACT MORE RESPONSIBLY!
もり もり
THEN JUST WHY WERE YOU PLAYING VIDEO GAMES LATE LAST NIGHT!?
HE HASN'T COME BACK HOME SINCE THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY. I GOT TO LOOK FOR HIM, MOM.
ALWAYS LEAVING THINGS UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!
NANAO, SHOULDN'T YOU BE GOING TO SCHOOL BY NOW?
AH! I'M GOING TO BE LATE!
BISU-MARU!?
BISU-MARU?
ガチャ

HUH?
LEFT...?
ワシャワシャ
MAYBE HE LEFT FOR GOOD?
YOU DIDN'T KNOW, NANAMO?
W-WHAT, IS THAT TRUE!?
ONCE THEIR KID ENTERS MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOU KNOW, MASCOTS USUALLY LEAVE,
YEAH.
YOU GUYS STILL HAVE YOUR MASCOTS, RIGHT?
I MEAN, I DON'T GRADUATE UNTIL NEXT YEAR.
B-BUT EVEN IF THAT WERE TRUE, I'M STILL IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

DID YOU MAYBE GET A LETTER FROM HIM?
WELL, I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I KNOW ABOUT HOW EXACTLY THEY DO THEIR GOOD BYES.
BESIDES, JUST LEAVING WITHOUT EVEN SAYING GOOD BYE SEEMS A LITTLE COLD...


I HEARD HER MASCOT ALREADY LEFT.
HEY, DID YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED WITH HER?
THAT BOY PRIEST MASCOT THE OTHER DAY WAS SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT GOOD BYES TOO..
WAIT A SEC..

6

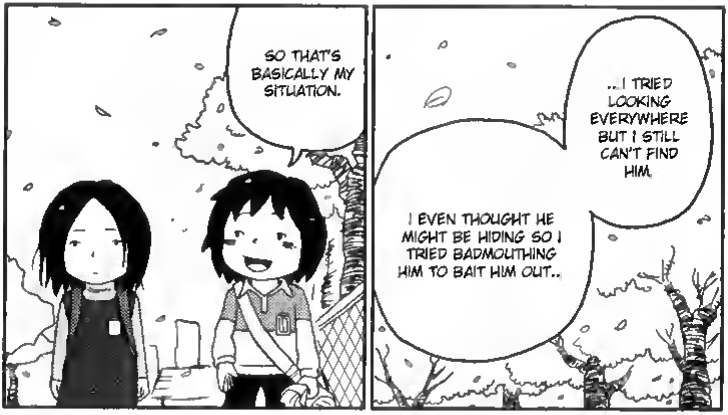

AND SHE'S ALWAYS BY HERSELF TOO...
YEAH, I HEARD HER MASCOT LEFT WHEN SHE ENTERED THE 5TH GRADE
YOU MEAN, YUIZUKI?
MAYBE SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING?
WHAT, NO WAY!
MAN, THAT'S HARSH
SHE CERTAINLY SEEMS KIND OF MYSTERIOUS.

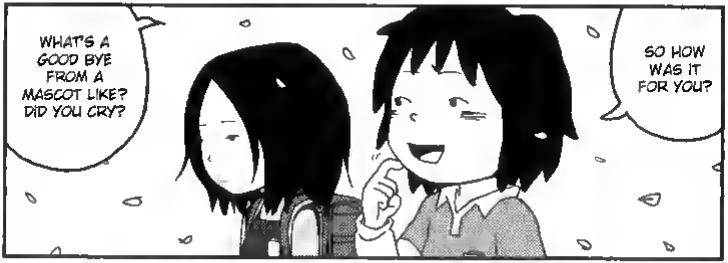
I'M PRETTY SURE YOUR MASCOT'S JUST GONE OUT FOR A COUPLE DAYS. HE'LL PROBABLY BE BACK HOME ANYTIME NOW.
NANAO, YOU SHOULD ASK HER ABOUT IT!
THAT'S RIGHT. AFTER ALL, HE DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE A GOOD BYE LETTER.
I DON'T THINK SHE'LL TALK TO GUYS, THOUGH.
HEY, DID YOU FINISH YOUR HOME-WORK?

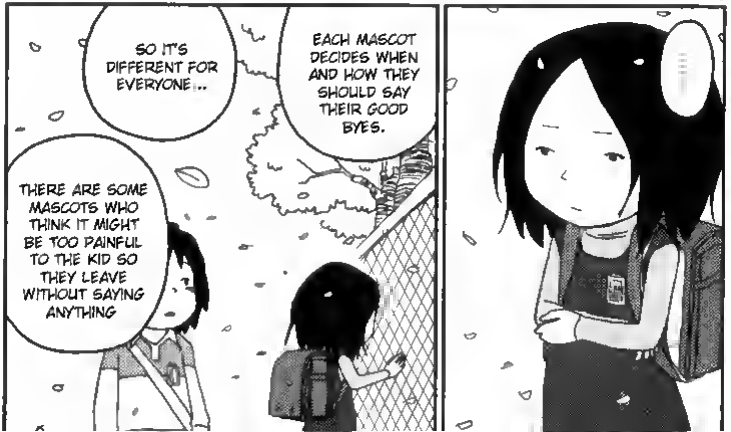
HEY, YUZUKI

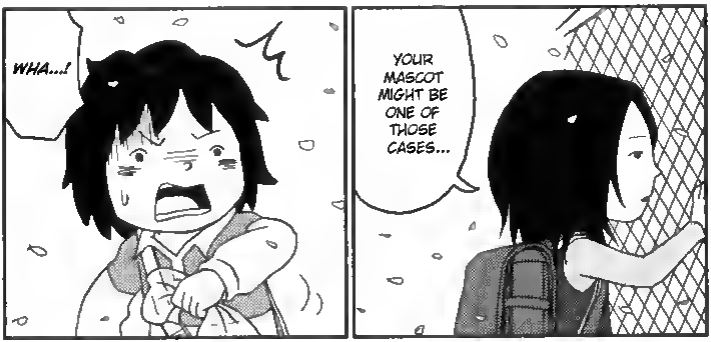
IS IT TRUE THAT YOUR MASCOT ALREADY LEFT?

AND I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT HOW MASCOTS SAY THEIR GOOD BYES TO THEIR KIDS SO I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD TELL ME A LITTLE ABOUT IT...
THE THING IS, MY MASCOT'S GONE MISSING RECENTLY AND IT'S BEEN REALLY WORRYING ME...
OF COURSE, I DON'T THINK HE REALLY LEFT ME FOR GOOD BUT JUST IN CASE...
AH, I MEAN.. UMM .. SORRY.
HEY, YUZU!...
HIS NAME IS BISUMARU...
ALRIGHT,
BUT I DON'T THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU MUCH.


SO THAT'S BASICALLY MY SITUATION.
...I TRIED LOOKING EVERYWHERE BUT I STILL CAN'T FIND HIM.
I EVEN THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE HIDING SO I TRIED BADMOUTHING HIM TO BAIT HIM OUT..

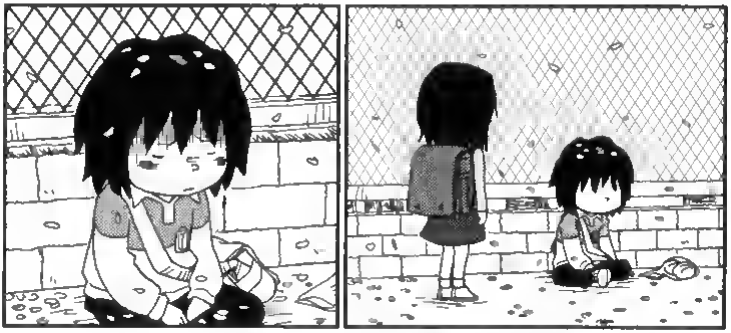

WHAT'S A GOOD BYE FROM A MASCOT LIKE? DID YOU CRY?
SO HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?

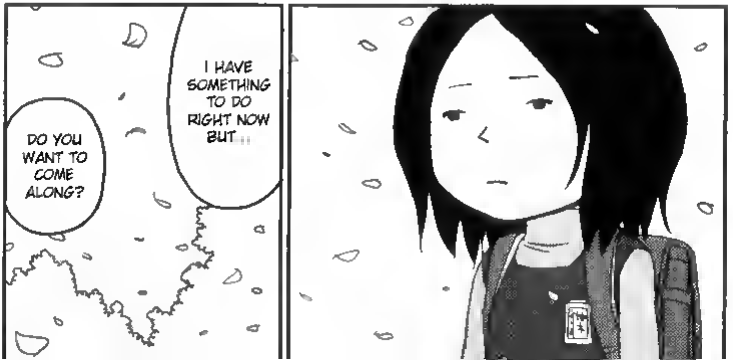

SO IT'S DIFFERENT FOR EVERYONE...
EACH MASCOT DECIDES WHEN AND HOW THEY SHOULD SAY THEIR GOOD BYES.
THERE ARE SOME MASCOTS WHO THINK IT MIGHT BE TOO PAINFUL TO THE KID SO THEY LEAVE WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING

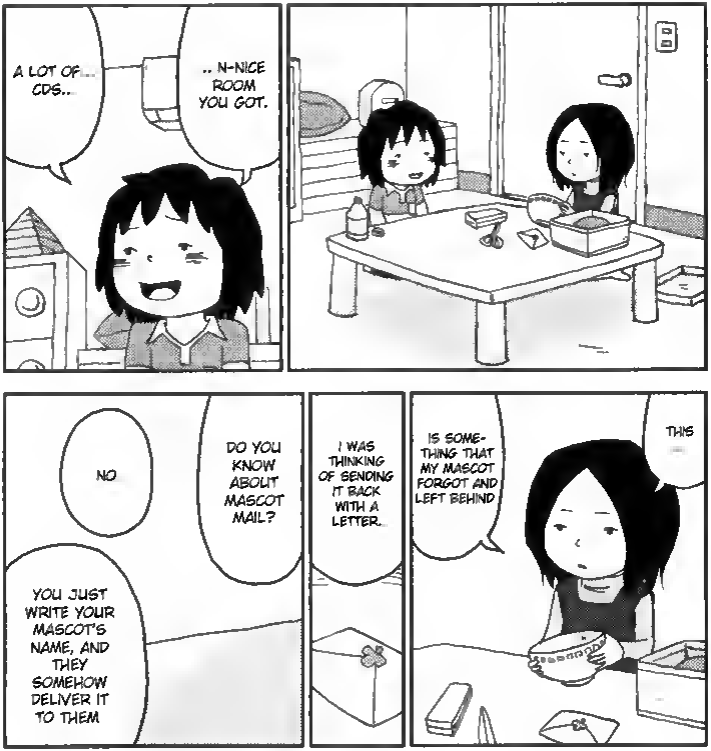

WHA...!
YOUR MASCOT MIGHT BE ONE OF THOSE CASES...
I MEAN, HE DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE A LETTER OR ANYTHING...
B-BUT EVERYONE SAID THAT HE'S PROBABLY JUST GONE OUT FOR AWHILE...

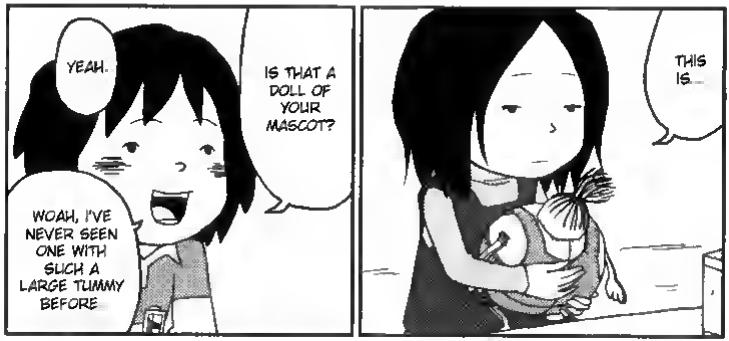
I KNOW...
AND JUST HOW MANY OF THEM HAVE ALREADY HAD THEIR MASCOTS LEAVE?
EVERY-ONE...?
WELL, YOU'RE FREE TO BELIEVE WHATEVER YOU WANT.

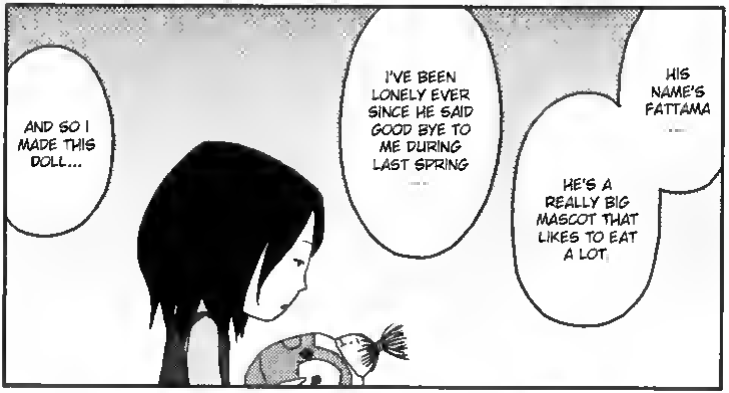
I KNOW THAT YOU ALREADY KNOW,
THAT YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE YOUR MASCOT AGAIN...




I HAVE SOMETHING TO DO RIGHT NOW BUT...
DO YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?


A LOT OF... CDS..
.. N-NICE ROOM YOU GOT.
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MASCOT MAIL?
NO
YOU JUST WRITE YOUR MASCOT'S NAME, AND THEY SOMEHOW DELIVER IT TO THEM
I WAS THINKING OF SENDING IT BACK WITH A LETTER..
IS SOMETHING THAT MY MASCOT FORGOT AND LEFT BEHIND
THIS
WHAT'S INSIDE THAT BOX? ARE YOU GOING TO MAIL THAT AS WELL?


YEAH.
IS THAT A DOLL OF YOUR MASCOT?
WOAH, I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE WITH SUCH A LARGE TUMMY BEFORE
THIS IS...

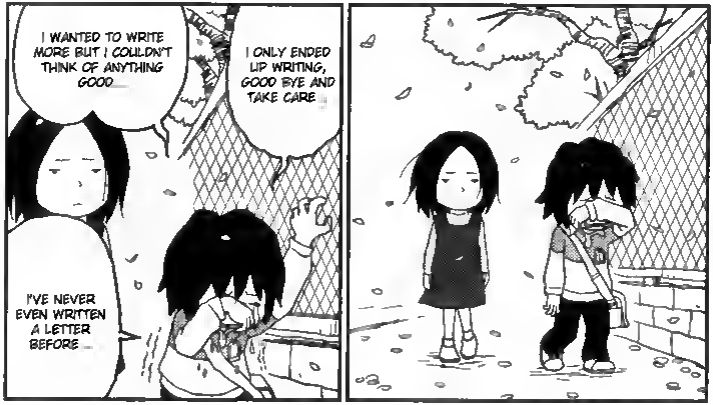

AND SO I MADE THIS DOLL...
I'VE BEEN LONELY EVER SINCE HE SAID GOOD BYE TO ME DURING LAST SPRING
HIS NAME'S FATTAMA
HE'S A REALLY BIG MASCOT THAT LIKES TO EAT A LOT

BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY, I CAN'T STOP...
IT'S NO GOOD!
WHAT'S THE POINT OF SAYING GOOD BYE IF I KEEP HOLDING ON TO SOME-THING LIKE THIS!?
I CAN'T GET HIM OUT OF MY HEAD...
BUT NOW I REALIZE ALL I DO IS JUST STARE AT THIS DOLL...

BUT I THEN REALIZED THAT EVEN WITHOUT THIS, I'LL HAVE MY MEMORIES OF MY MASCOT FOREVER...
AND SO I THOUGHT IT'D BE BEST TO SEND THIS TO HIM TOO...
WELL, THE DOLL'S POORLY MADE SO DON'T LOOK SO MUCH
I FEEL THE SAME WAY
YUZUKI...
HEY, I TOLD YOU THAT YOU CAN STILL CONTACT YOUR MASCOT EVEN IF HE LEFT YOU.
SO WHY DON'T YOU TRY MAILING HIM SOMETHING TOO?
I GUESS
ONCE YOU'RE AN ADULT, IT'LL BE EASIER TO UNDERSTAND...
I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT LATELY ABOUT WHAT MY MASCOT MEANS TO ME AND STUFF...

THE NINJA BISUMARU...
THAT WAS YOUR MASCOT'S NAME, RIGHT?
I WONDER WHAT I SHOULD WRITE...?
ANYTHING'S FINE, EVEN IF IT'S SHORT.
DID YOU FINISH?
ALRIGHT, THIS SHOULD BE GOOD.
YEAH.
HE REALLY LIKED,
EATING COOKIES.
15
SEAL IT TIGHT...
OK.
YEAH, IF YOU WANT TO.
REALLY?
YOU CAN USE THIS SEAL.
BISU-MARU...
TO: THE NINJA BISUMARU

MASCOT POSTAL SERVICES
公園駅前キャラポスト


I WANTED TO WRITE MORE BUT I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING GOOD...
I ONLY ENDED UP WRITING, GOOD BYE AND TAKE CARE...
I'VE NEVER EVEN WRITTEN A LETTER BEFORE...

I'LL NEVER EVER FORGET ABOUT YOU...
BISUMARU, THANKS FOR EVERYTHING UNTIL NOW...
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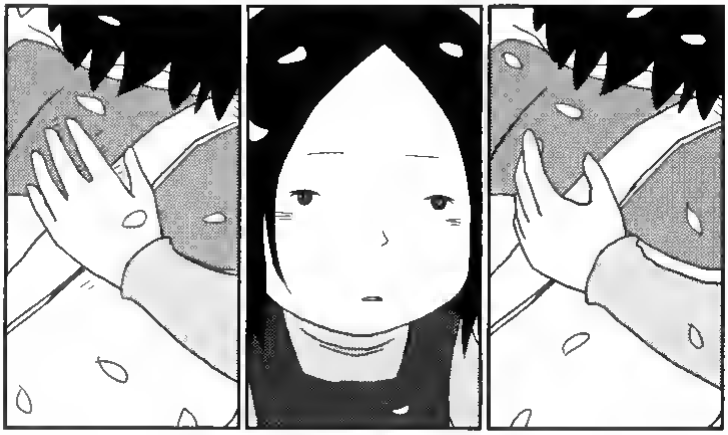
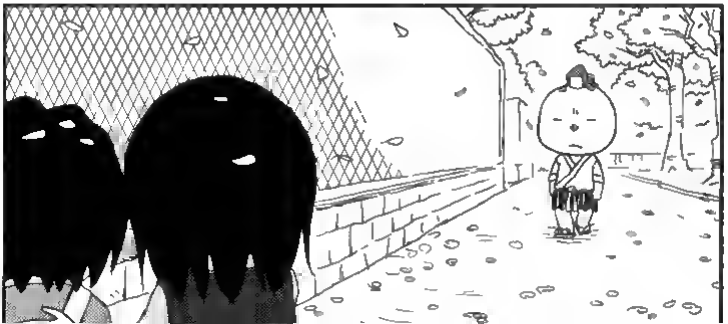
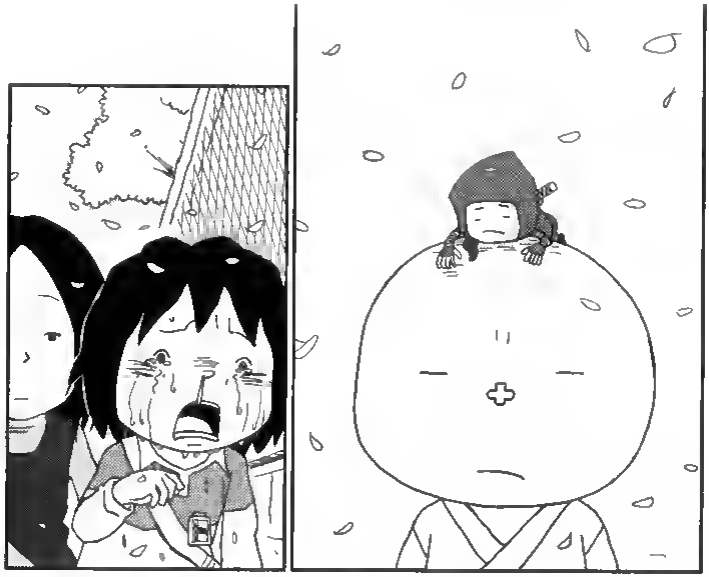
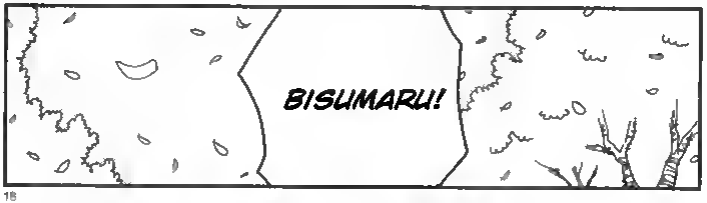
I'M SURE HE UNDER-STANDS...

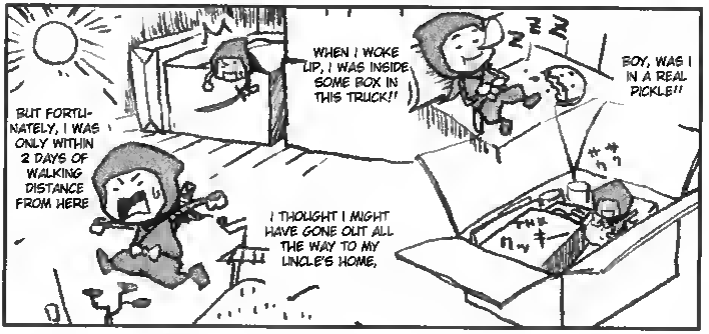




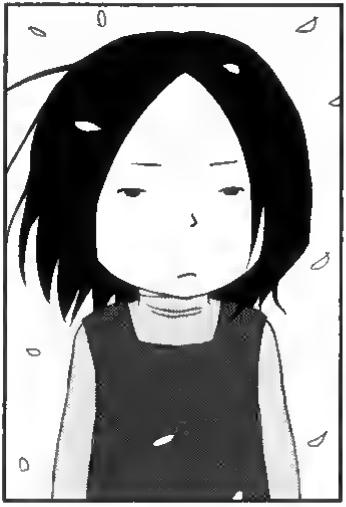


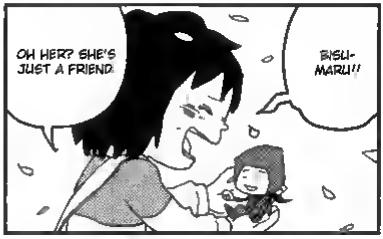

BISUMARU!

18


BUT FORTU-NATELY, I WAS ONLY WITHIN 2 DAYS OF WALKING DISTANCE FROM HERE
I THOUGHT I MIGHT HAVE GONE OUT ALL THE WAY TO MY UNCLE'S HOME,
WHEN I WOKE UP, I WAS INSIDE SOME BOX IN THIS TRUCK!!
BOY, WAS I IN A REAL PICKLE!!

SO YOU'RE BISUMARU'S KID?
ONE OF OUR STORE EMPLOYEES FOUND HIM COLLAPSED BY THE SIDE OF A STREET AND SO I WAS ASKED TO BRING HIM BACK TO HIS HOUSE.
MAN, I'M EXHAUSTED!

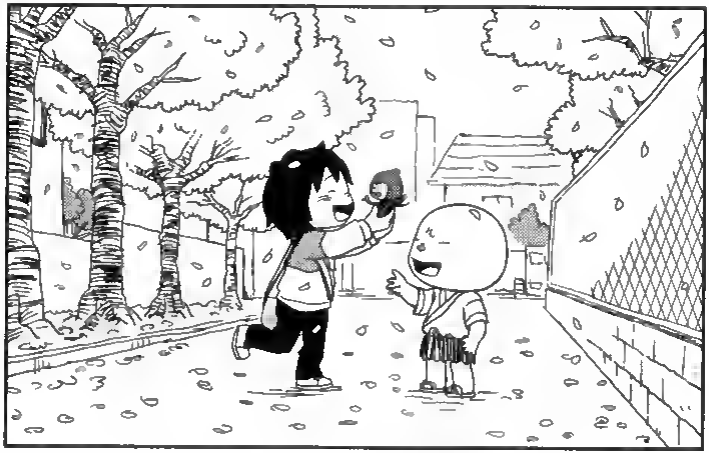



OH HER? SHE'S JUST A FRIEND.
BISU-MARU!!

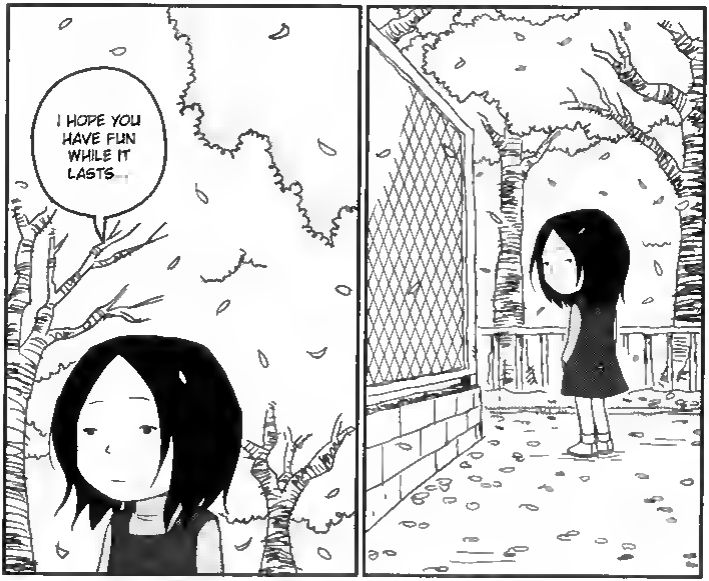
YUZUKI, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO MY MASCOT...

STUPID!
WHERE'RE YOU GOING, YUZUKI?
BUT YOU REALLY ARE ONE WEIRD KID.

I'VE BEEN THINKING SINCE THE BEGINNING,



20



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Mascot Profile

ID No.	00940922
Mascot Type	Ninja
Name	Palm-sized Ninja Bisumaru

No. Families Serviced	18
Special Skills	Special Ninja techmques.
Favourite Food	Cookies.
Motto	Doron!
Preferred Family	Definitely a family with a boy.
Message	I'm really small so don't lose me!
Further Notes	A very tiny ninja type mascot.

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Next

Mascot Profile

ID No.	01139866
Mascot Type	Lumberjack (human-monster)
Name	The Lumberjack Fattama

No. Families Serviced	7
Special Skills	Cutting down trees and tumbling.
Favourite Food	Nothing in particular. (Glutton type)
Motto	Keep a calm mind, a round heart, and never be angered
Preferred Family	Because my body is big, a family with a large house and maybe inside a forest would be nice.
Message	I haven't cleanly cut down a tree in a long time... Nice to meet you!
Further Notes	A very large, round mascot.

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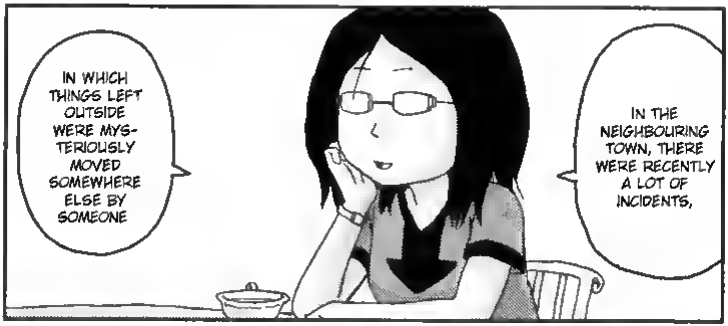
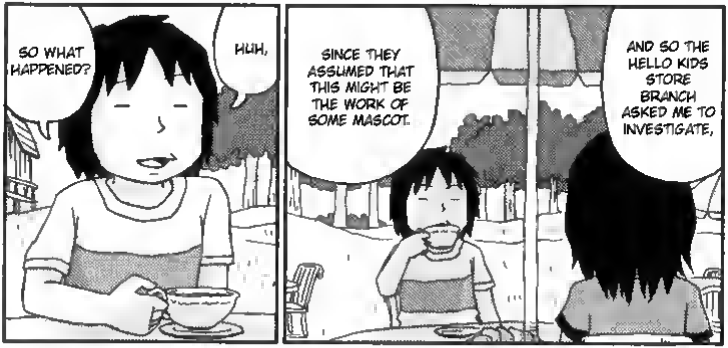
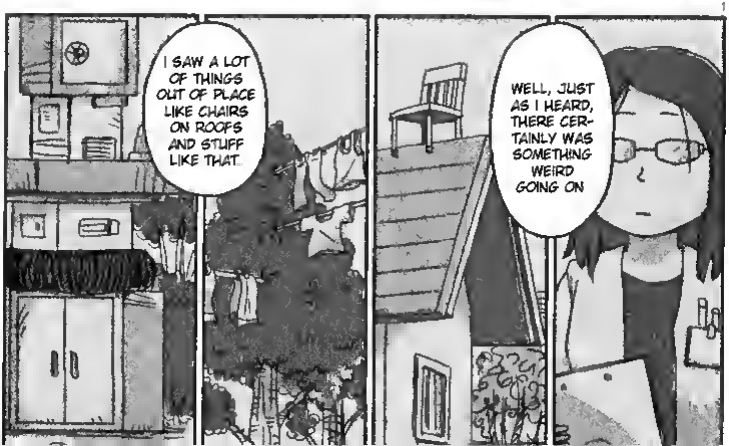
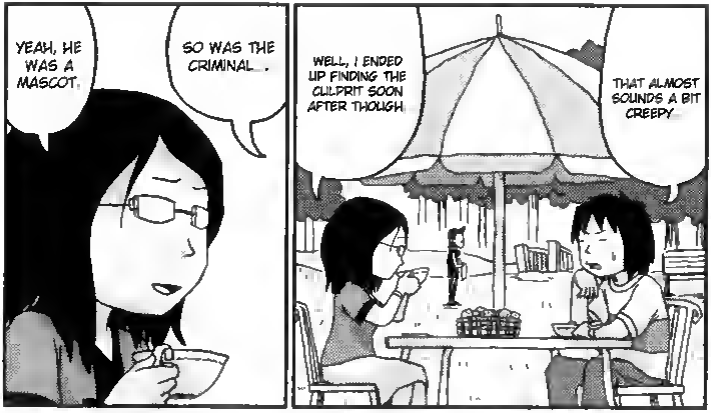
Translated by Hox

AIR SWIMMING


IN WHICH THINGS LEFT OUTSIDE WERE MYSTERIOUSLY MOVED SOMEWHERE ELSE BY SOMEONE
IN THE NEIGHBOURING TOWN, THERE WERE RECENTLY A LOT OF INCIDENTS,

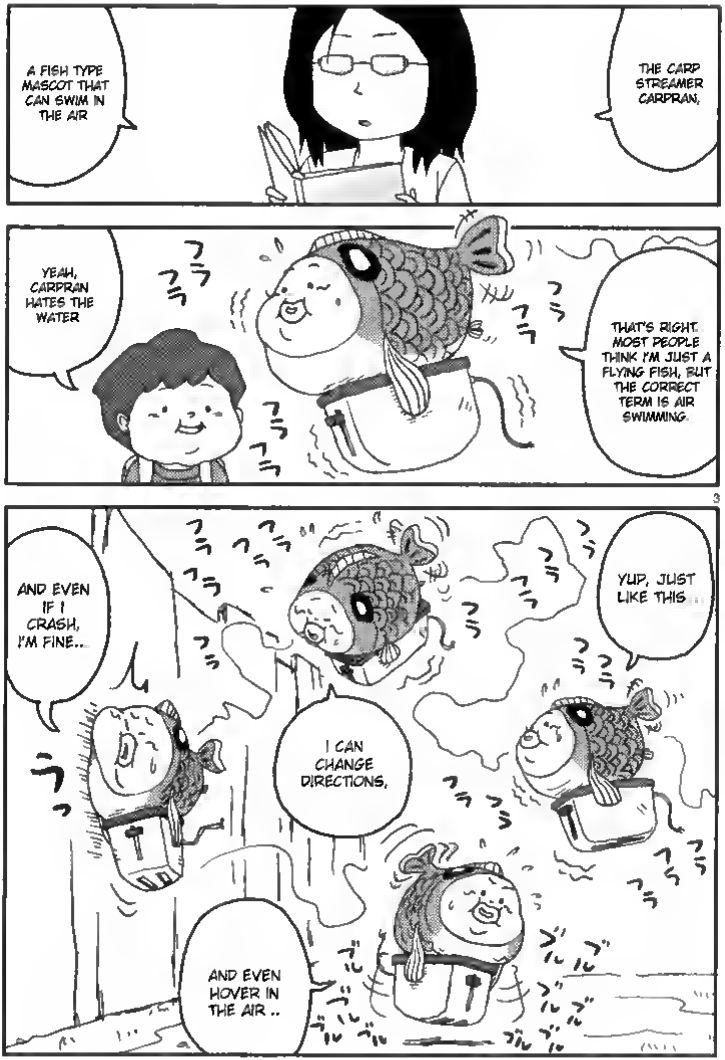

SO WHAT HAPPENED?
HUH,
SINCE THEY ASSUMED THAT THIS MIGHT BE THE WORK OF SOME MASCOT.
AND SO THE HELLO KIDS STORE BRANCH ASKED ME TO INVESTIGATE,

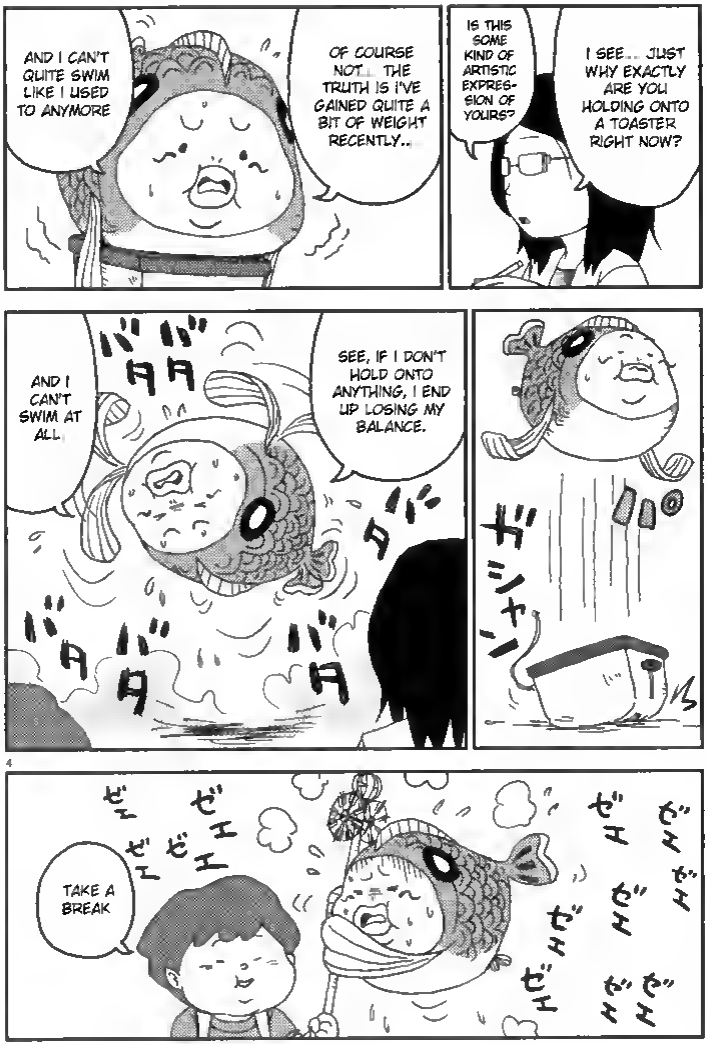

I SAW A LOT OF THINGS OUT OF PLACE LIKE CHAIRS ON ROOFS AND STUFF LIKE THAT.
WELL, JUST AS I HEARD, THERE CERTAINLY WAS SOMETHING WEIRD GOING ON


YEAH, HE WAS A MASCOT.
SO WAS THE CRIMINAL...
WELL, I ENDED UP FINDING THE CULPRIT SOON AFTER THOUGH.
THAT ALMOST SOUNDS A BIT CREEPY.

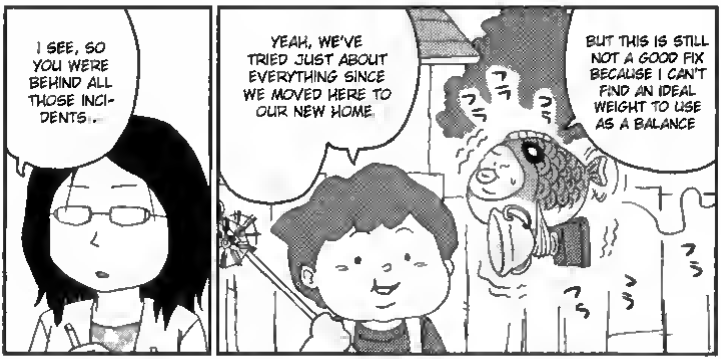
2

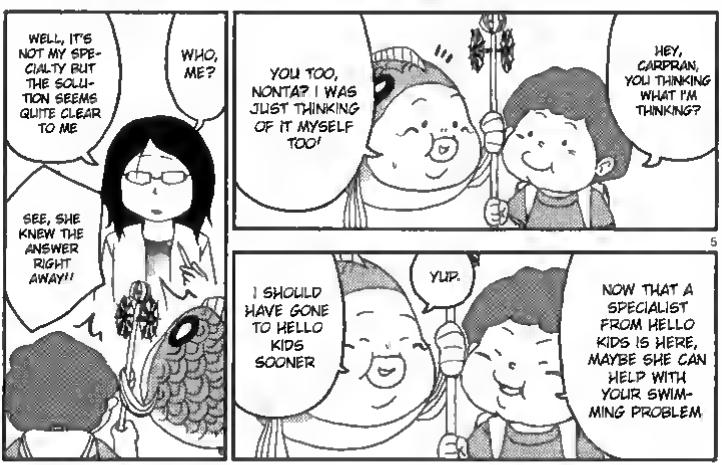
AIR SWIMMING

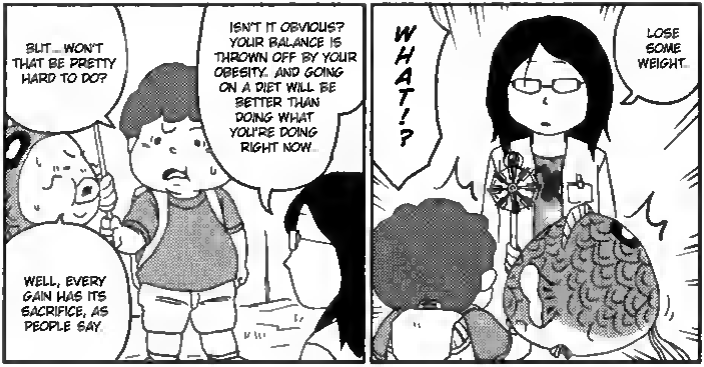

A FISH TYPE MASCOT THAT CAN SWIM IN THE AIR
THE CARP STREAMER CARPRAN.
YEAH, CARPRAN HATES THE WATER
THAT'S RIGHT. MOST PEOPLE THINK I'M JUST A FLYING FISH, BUT THE CORRECT TERM IS AIR SWIMMING.
3
AND EVEN IF I CRASH, I'M FINE..
I CAN CHANGE DIRECTIONS,
YUP, JUST LIKE THIS
AND EVEN HOVER IN THE AIR ..


AND I CAN'T QUITE SWIM LIKE I USED TO ANYMORE
OF COURSE NOT... THE TRUTH IS I'VE GAINED QUITE A BIT OF WEIGHT RECENTLY...
IS THIS SOME KIND OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION OF YOURS?
I SEE... JUST WHY EXACTLY ARE YOU HOLDING ONTO A TOASTER RIGHT NOW?
AND I CAN'T SWIM AT ALL.
SEE, IF I DON'T HOLD ONTO ANYTHING, I END UP LOSING MY BALANCE.
ガシャン
4
TAKE A BREAK

I CAN BALANCE MYSELF PROPERLY
SO BY CARRYING STUFF AROUND,

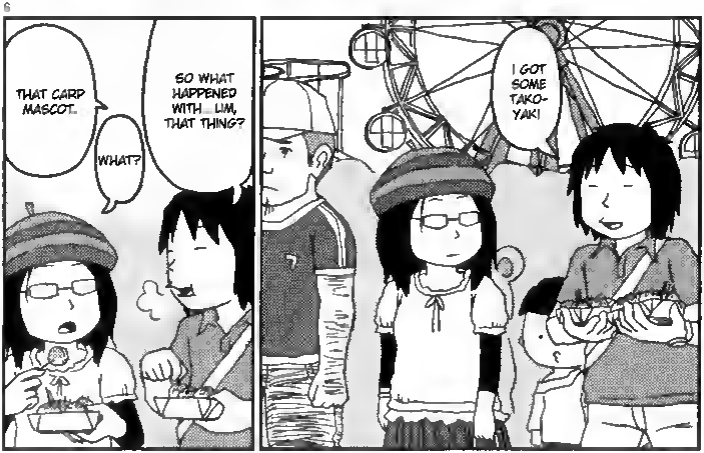

I SEE, SO YOU WERE BEHIND ALL THOSE INCIDENTS.
YEAH, WE'VE TRIED JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING SINCE WE MOVED HERE TO OUR NEW HOME.
BUT THIS IS STILL NOT A GOOD FIX BECAUSE I CAN'T FIND AN IDEAL WEIGHT TO USE AS A BALANCE


WELL, IT'S NOT MY SPECIALTY BUT THE SOLUTION SEEMS QUITE CLEAR TO ME
WHO, ME?
SEE, SHE KNEW THE ANSWER RIGHT AWAY!!
YOU TOO, NONTA? I WAS JUST THINKING OF IT MYSELF TOO!
HEY, CARPRAN, YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING?
5
I SHOULD HAVE GONE TO HELLO KIDS SOONER
YUP.
NOW THAT A SPECIALIST FROM HELLO KIDS IS HERE, MAYBE SHE CAN HELP WITH YOUR SWIMMING PROBLEM

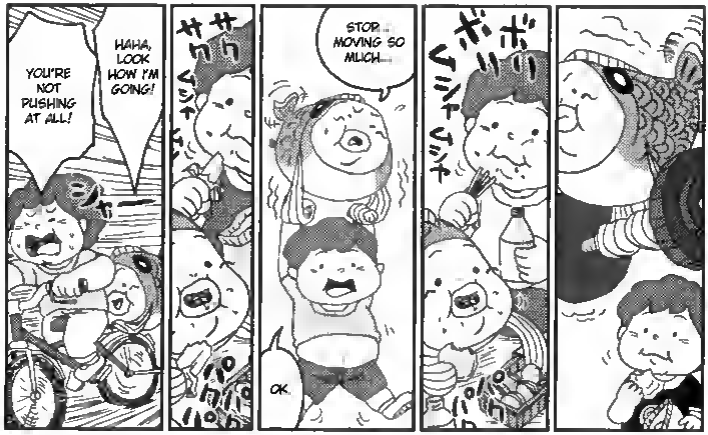

BUT... WON'T THAT BE PRETTY HARD TO DO?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS? YOUR BALANCE IS THROWN OFF BY YOUR OBESITY. AND GOING ON A DIET WILL BE BETTER THAN DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT NOW.
WELL, EVERY GAIN HAS ITS SACRIFICE, AS PEOPLE SAY.
WHAT!?
LOSE SOME WEIGHT.

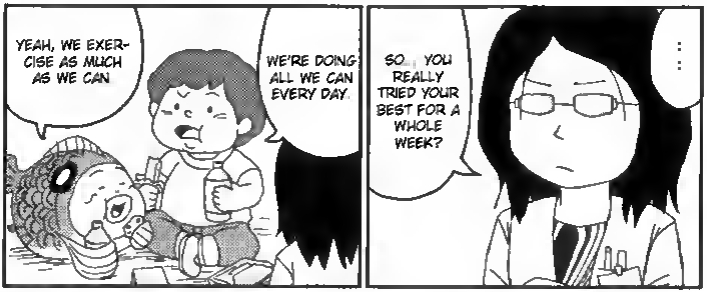
WHAT!?
GOOD THEN TO START OFF, I WANT YOU TO PUT EVERYTHING HERE BACK TO WHERE THEY BELONG.

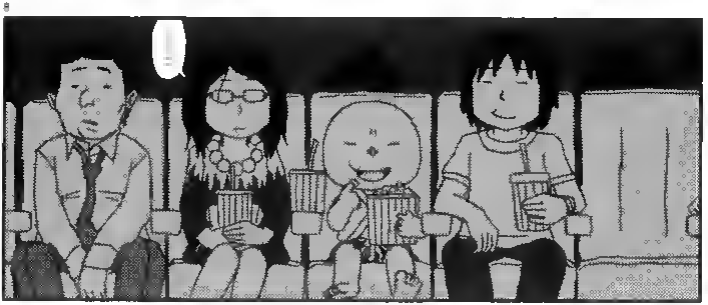
6

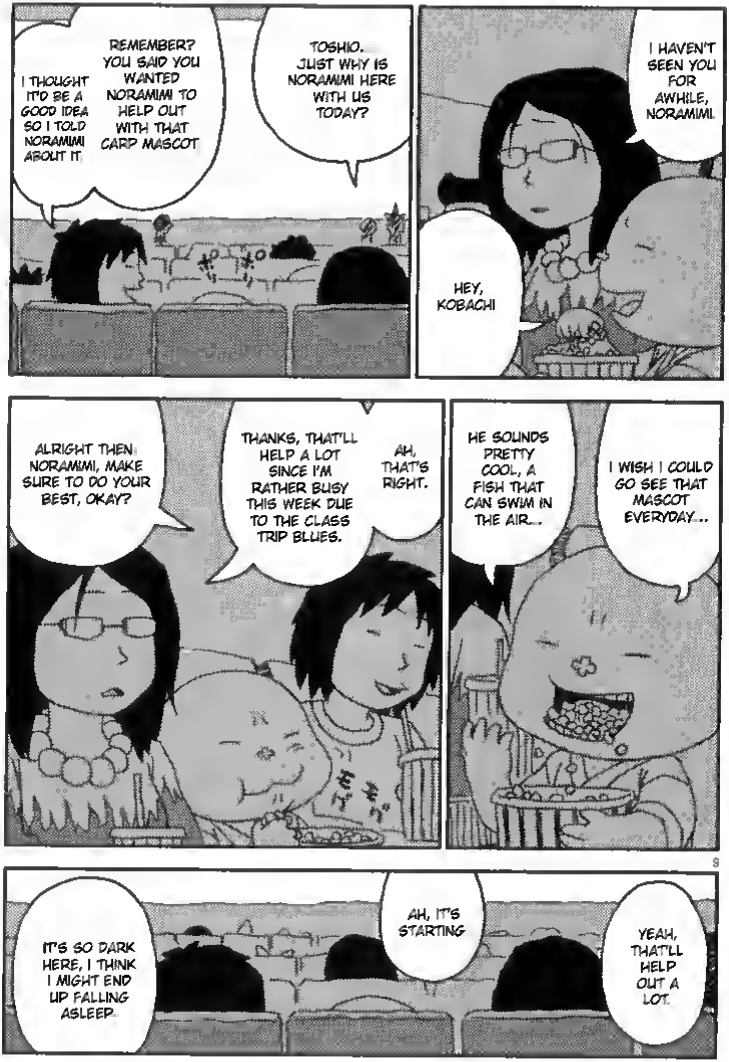

THAT CARP MASCOT.
WHAT?
SO WHAT HAPPENED WITH... UM, THAT THING?
I GOT SOME TAKO-YAKI

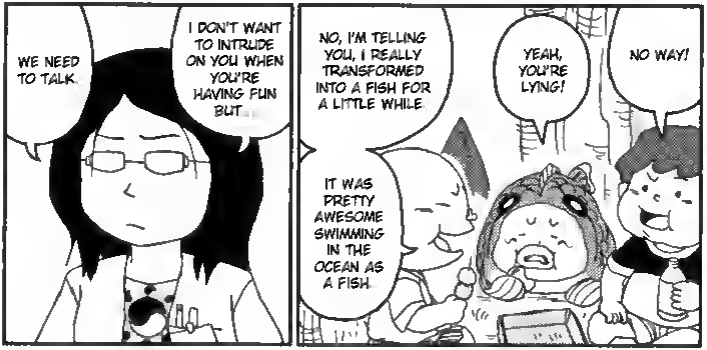
YEAH, MASCOTS CAN GAIN WEIGHT PRETTY QUICKLY.
BUT THAT MASCOT'S KID IS ALSO KIND OF FAT SO HIS OBESITY IS MORE LIKELY A PROBLEM OF HIS ENVIRONMENT.
HE MIGHT'VE BEEN ABLE TO SLIM DOWN A BIT IF I HAD KEPT CONSTANT WATCH ON HIM THOUGH.
OH THAT? WELL, I ENDED UP BECOMING IN CHARGE OF OVERLOOKING HIS DIET BUT HE DIDN'T LOSE A SINGLE POUND AT ALL.
WHAT, WHY!?
YOU CAN EAT MINE
IT SURE IS CROWDED HERE.
WHAT WAS UP WITH THAT PAUSE?
WHAT, OH COME ON. THAT'S... ...NOT TRUE AT ALL.
I THINK I'VE ALSO GAINED A FEW POUNDS EVER SINCE I QUIT SMOKING.


YOU'RE NOT PUSHING AT ALL!
HAHA, LOOK HOW I'M GOING!
STOP... MOVING SO MUCH...
OK.

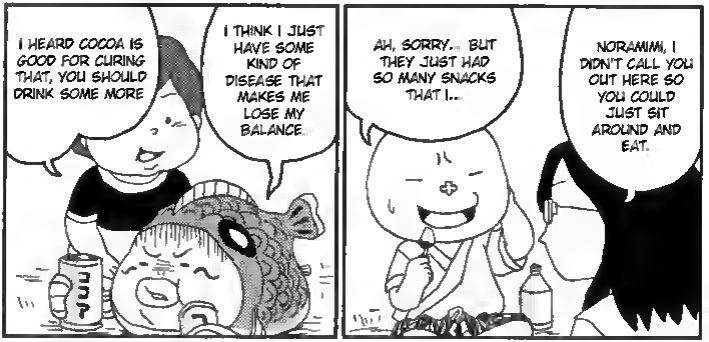

YEAH, WE EXERCISE AS MUCH AS WE CAN.
WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN EVERY DAY.
SO... YOU REALLY TRIED YOUR BEST FOR A WHOLE WEEK?
...

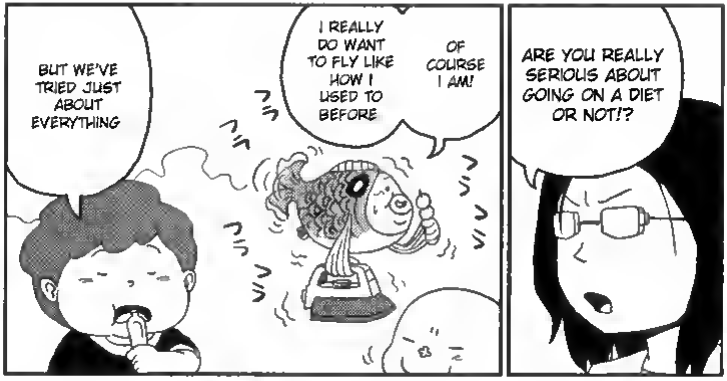



I THOUGHT IT'D BE A GOOD IDEA SO I TOLD NORAMIMI ABOUT IT.
REMEMBER? YOU SAID YOU WANTED NORAMIMI TO HELP OUT WITH THAT CARP MASCOT
TOSHIO. JUST WHY IS NORAMIMI HERE WITH US TODAY?
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR AWHILE, NORAMIMI.
HEY, KOBACHI
ALRIGHT THEN. NORAMIMI, MAKE SURE TO DO YOUR BEST, OKAY?
THANKS, THAT'LL HELP A LOT SINCE I'M RATHER BUSY THIS WEEK DUE TO THE CLASS TRIP BLUES.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
HE SOUNDS PRETTY COOL, A FISH THAT CAN SWIM IN THE AIR...
I WISH I COULD GO SEE THAT MASCOT EVERYDAY...
IT'S SO DARK HERE, I THINK I MIGHT END UP FALLING ASLEEP.
AH, IT'S STARTING
YEAH, THAT'LL HELP OUT A LOT.


I DON'T WANT TO INTRUDE ON YOU WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN BUT...
WE NEED TO TALK.
NO, I'M TELLING YOU, I REALLY TRANSFORMED INTO A FISH FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
YEAH, YOU'RE LYING!
NO WAY!
IT WAS PRETTY AWESOME SWIMMING IN THE OCEAN AS A FISH.

10


I HEARD COCOA IS GOOD FOR CURING THAT, YOU SHOULD DRINK SOME MORE
I THINK I JUST HAVE SOME KIND OF DISEASE THAT MAKES ME LOSE MY BALANCE.
AH, SORRY... BUT THEY JUST HAD SO MANY SNACKS THAT I...
NORAMIMI, I DIDN'T CALL YOU OUT HERE SO YOU COULD JUST SIT AROUND AND EAT.


ARE YOU REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT GOING ON A DIET OR NOT!?
OF COURSE I AM!
I REALLY DO WANT TO FLY LIKE HOW I USED TO BEFORE
BUT WE'VE TRIED JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING
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フラ
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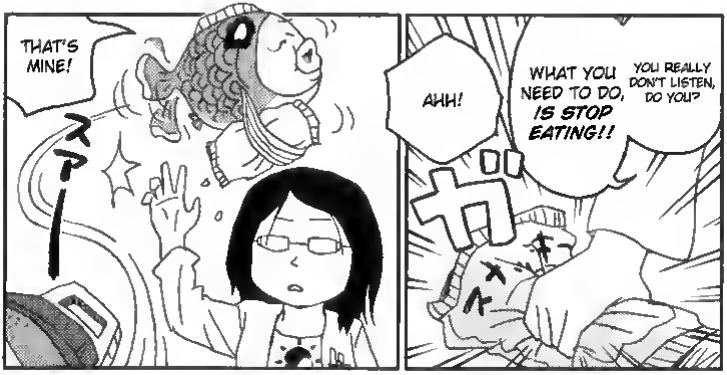
YOU REALLY DON'T LISTEN, DO YOU?
WHAT YOU NEED TO DO, IS STOP EATING!!
AHH!
THAT'S MINE!
カ
ス
ー

AH...
OH NO!
ガラ
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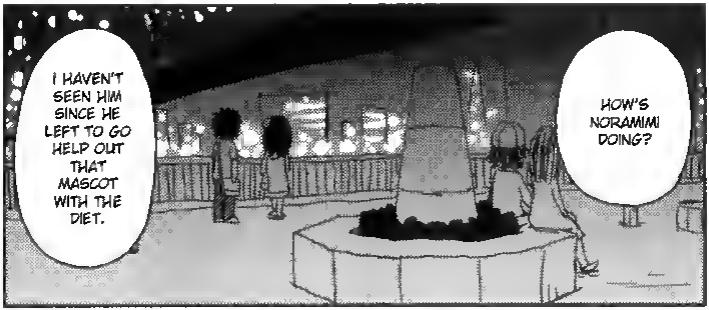
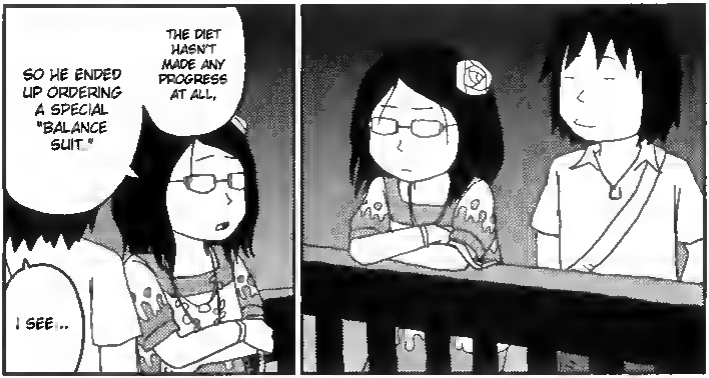
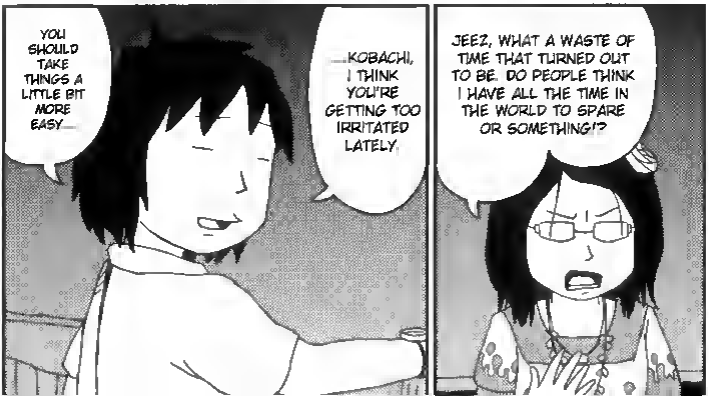
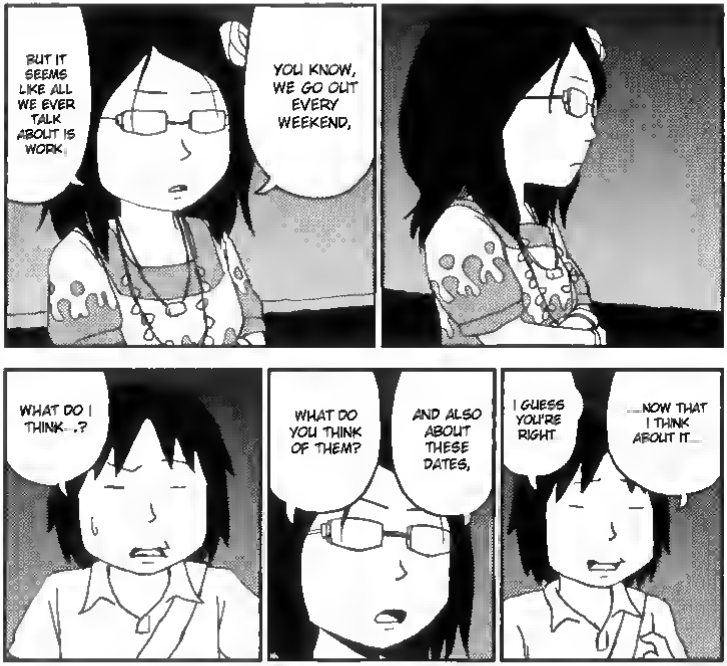
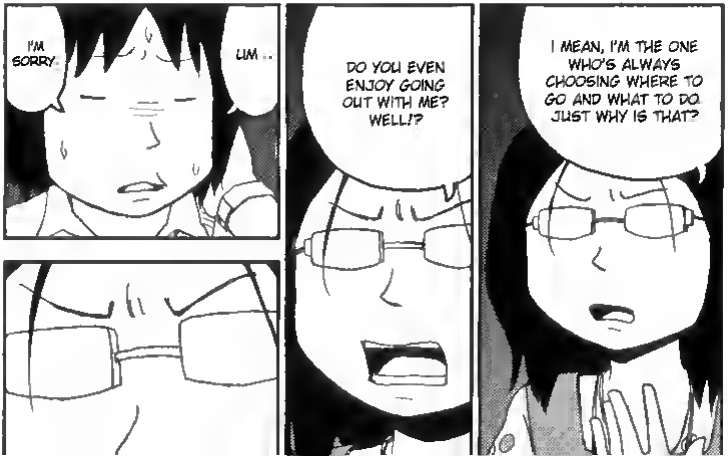
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
.....


I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE HE LEFT TO GO HELP OUT THAT MASCOT WITH THE DIET.
HOW'S NORAMIMI DOING?

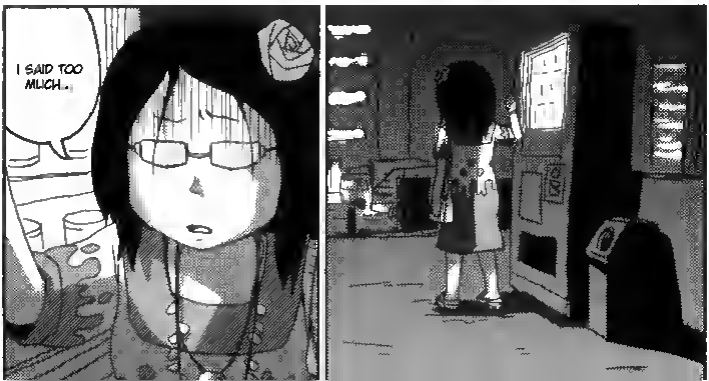

THE DIET HASN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS AT ALL.
SO HE ENDED UP ORDERING A SPECIAL "BALANCE SUIT."
I SEE..

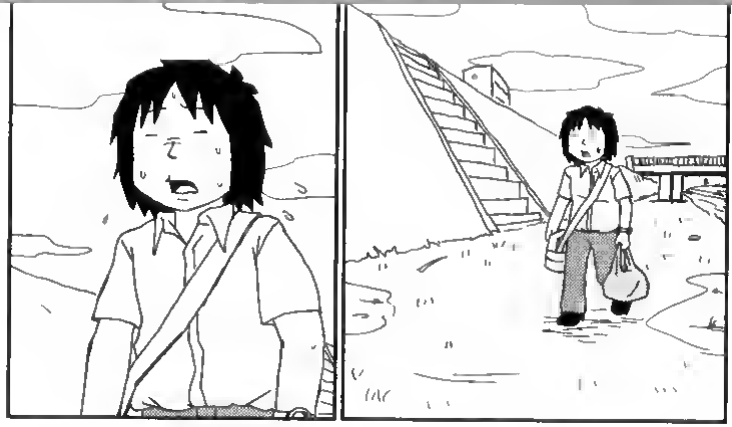

YOU SHOULD TAKE THINGS A LITTLE BIT MORE EASY—
—KOBACHI, I THINK YOU'RE GETTING TOO IRRITATED LATELY.
JEEZ, WHAT A WASTE OF TIME THAT TURNED OUT TO BE. DO PEOPLE THINK I HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD TO SPARE OR SOMETHING!?

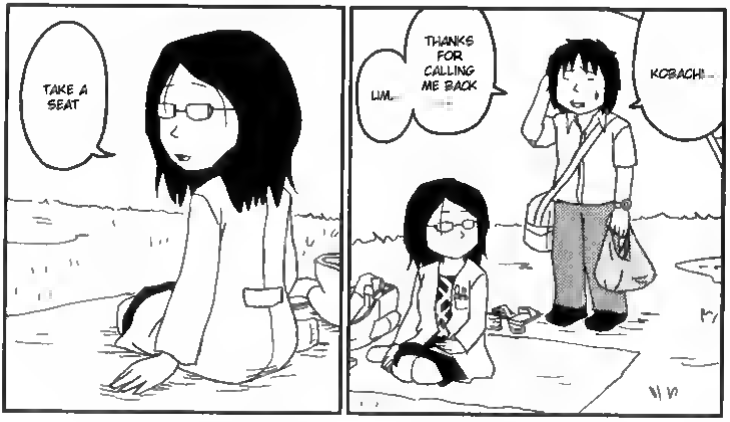

BUT IT SEEMS LIKE ALL WE EVER TALK ABOUT IS WORK.
YOU KNOW, WE GO OUT EVERY WEEKEND,
WHAT DO I THINK...?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THEM?
AND ALSO ABOUT THESE DATES,
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
...NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...

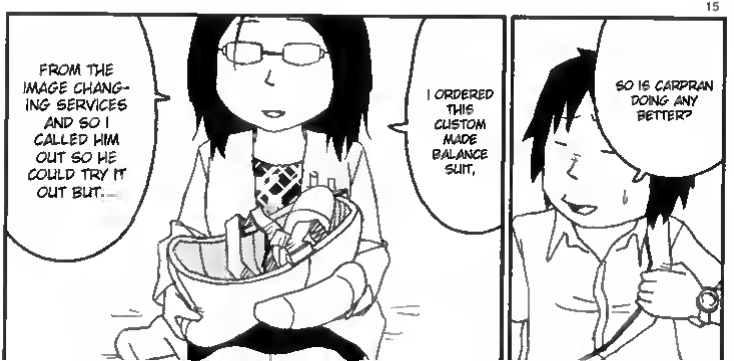

I'M SORRY.
UM..
DO YOU EVEN ENJOY GOING OUT WITH ME? WELL!?
I MEAN, I'M THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS CHOOSING WHERE TO GO AND WHAT TO DO. JUST WHY IS THAT?

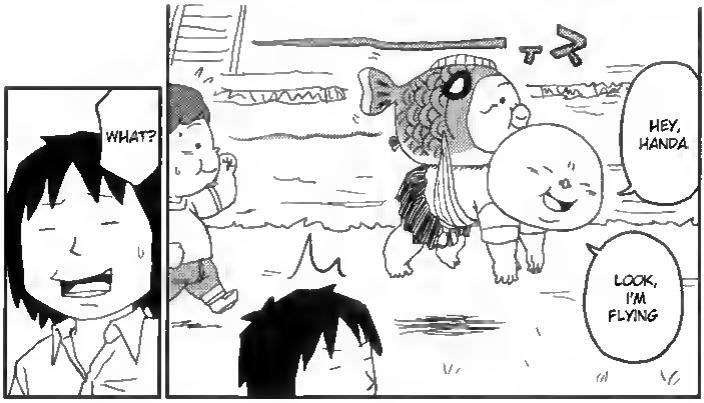
I'M GOING HOME.
THAT KIND OF THING REALLY IRKS ME TO NO END!!
最新
100 BEST DATING SPOTS
純情編

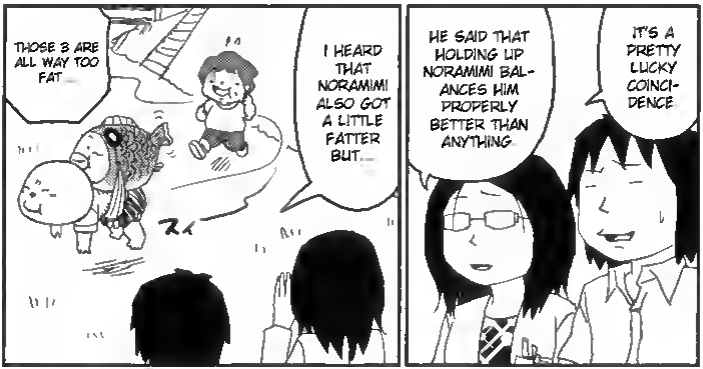

I SAID TOO MUCH.




TAKE A SEAT
UM...
THANKS FOR CALLING ME BACK
KOBACHI...


FROM THE IMAGE CHANGING SERVICES AND SO I CALLED HIM OUT SO HE COULD TRY IT OUT BUT...
I ORDERED THIS CUSTOM MADE BALANCE SUIT,
SO IS CARPRAN DOING ANY BETTER?

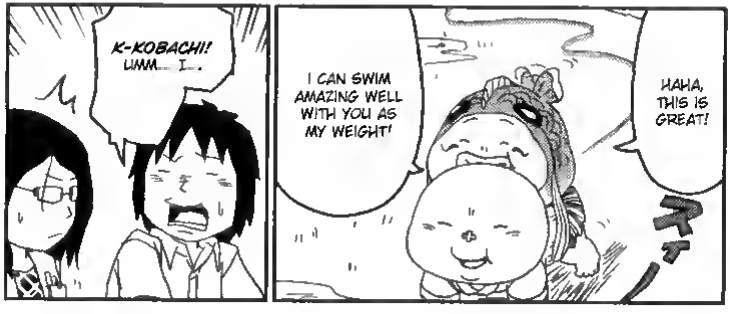

WHAT?
HEY, HANDA
LOOK, I'M FLYING

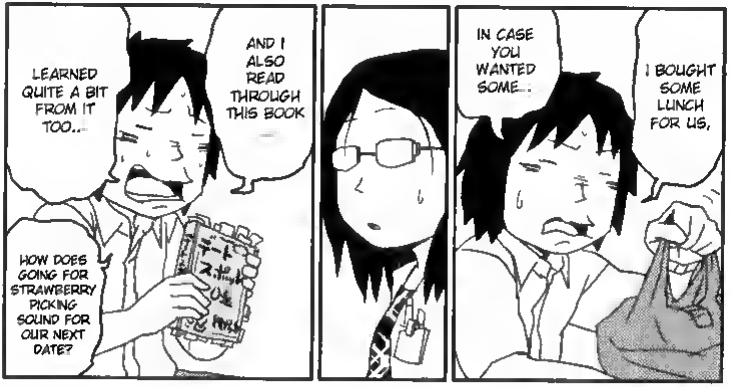

THOSE 3 ARE ALL WAY TOO FAT...
I HEARD THAT NORAMIMI ALSO GOT A LITTLE FATTER BUT...
HE SAID THAT HOLDING UP NORAMIMI BALANCES HIM PROPERLY BETTER THAN ANYTHING
IT'S A PRETTY LUCKY COINCIDENCE

16

WHO KNEW THAT NORAMIMI SITTING AROUND AND EATING WOULD END UP HELPING CARPRAN OUT?
OH WELL
IT'S ALMOST FUNNY NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT.

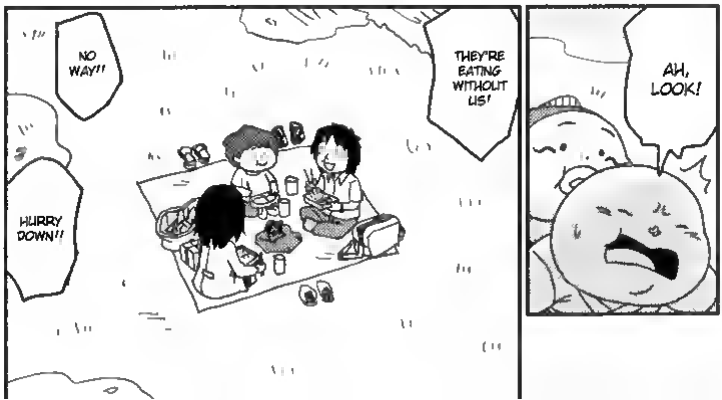
SIGH... JUST WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH THIS NOW?

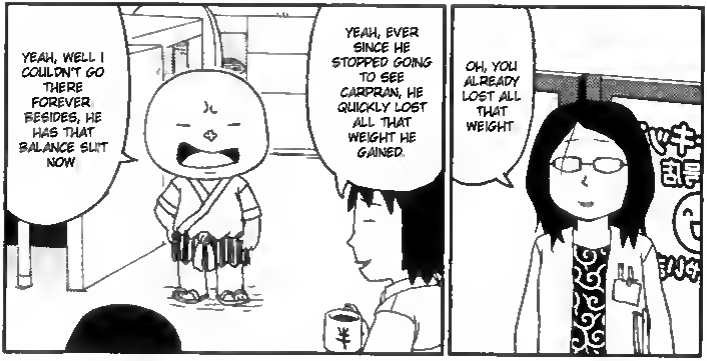

K-KOBACHI! UMM... I...
I CAN SWIM AMAZING WELL WITH YOU AS MY WEIGHT!
HAHA, THIS IS GREAT!

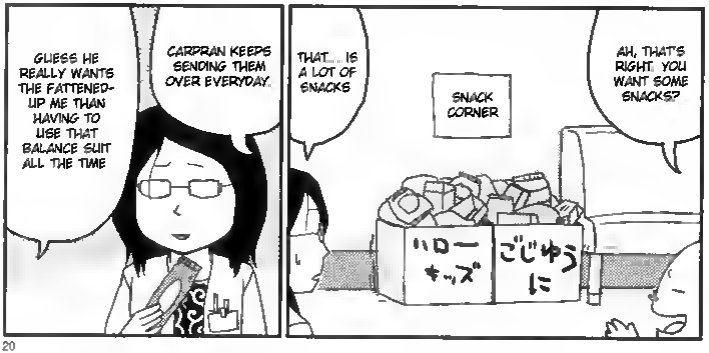

LEARNED QUITE A BIT FROM IT TOO...
AND I ALSO READ THROUGH THIS BOOK
HOW DOES GOING FOR STRAWBERRY PICKING SOUND FOR OUR NEXT DATE?
IN CASE YOU WANTED SOME...
I BOUGHT SOME LUNCH FOR US,

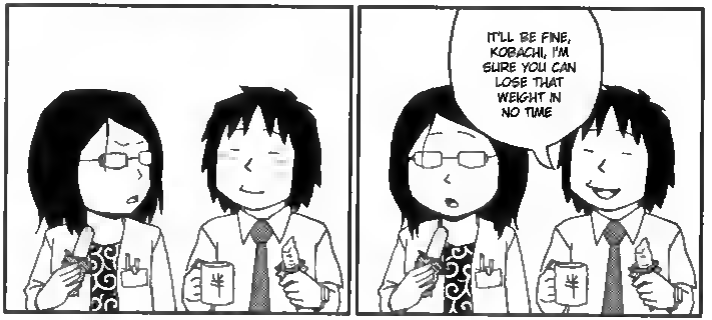
NOW!! SPREAD YOUR ARMS!!
IT'S UMM... KIND OF HARD TO EXPLAIN BUT YOU'LL UNDERSTAND ONCE YOU OPEN IT.
AND ALSO... I GOT YOU A LITTLE SOMETHING...

ALRIGHT
.....
WE MAKE A GOOD PAIR ANYWAYS
IT'S ALRIGHT, NO NEED TO FORCE YOURSELF
THIS IS SO COOL!!!
IT'S BEEN REALLY LONG SINCE I FLEW UP SO HIGH


NO WAY!!
THEY'RE EATING WITHOUT US!
HURRY DOWN!!
AH, LOOK!







エアスイミング=おしまい

Mascot Profile

ID No.	00473231
Mascot Type	Carprider (Fish)
Name	The Carprider Carpran

No. Families Serviced	11
Special Skills	Air swimming.
Favourite Food	Chicken, Chimaki
Motto	Things will work out somehow.
Preferred Family	Family must have a boy! Preferrably a clumsy kid with glasses.
Message	My floating self is really cool.
Further Notes	A fish type mascot that can swim in the air.

Return to Contents | Next

Translated by Hox

The Class Trip Blues

The greatest event for an elementary school student, the class trip, takes place in the summer of 6th grade. For 2-3 days, all the children's mascots are left alone at home, which leads to a well-noted problem.

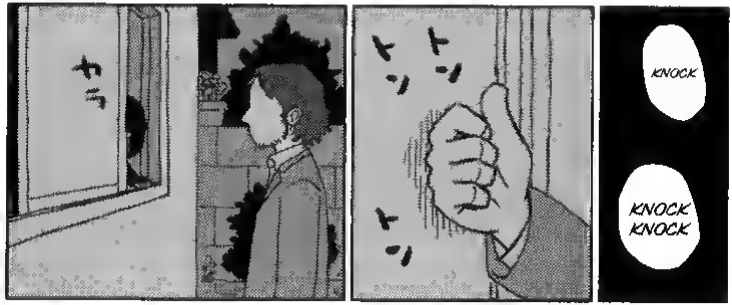
Once a mascot's assigned child enters the 6th grade, mascots must begin to think about how and when to say their good-byes and thus make preparations for it. During this 2-3 day break when their children leave on the class trip, they feel the looming good-bye approaching ever closer and feel very uneasy and upset about it.

The term dubbed, "Class Trip Blues," refers to this case of depression that mascots go through during this period of time. Mascots will generally do one of the following in this time.

- begin to look for their next family
- talk with other mascots about their worries
- go on a trip to find themselves
- end up doing nothing and wasting their time away...

The Mascot Introduction Agency is very busy during this time in order to attend to the needs of worried mascots.

THE FREELOADER'S ROOM



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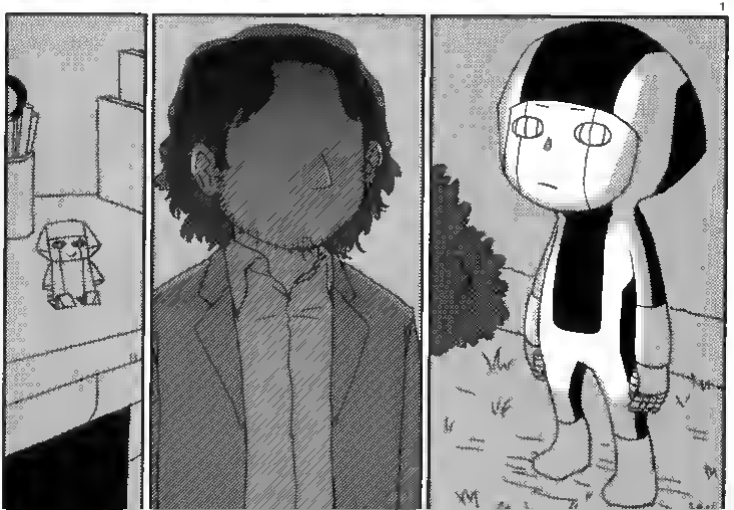
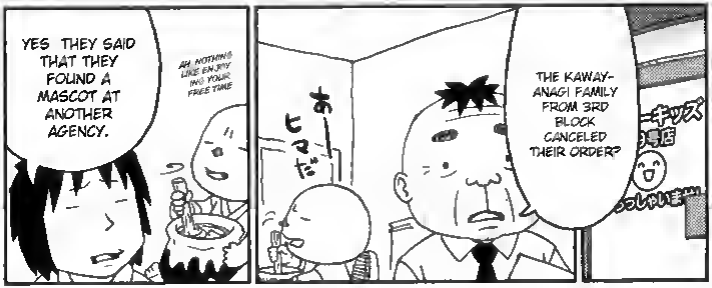
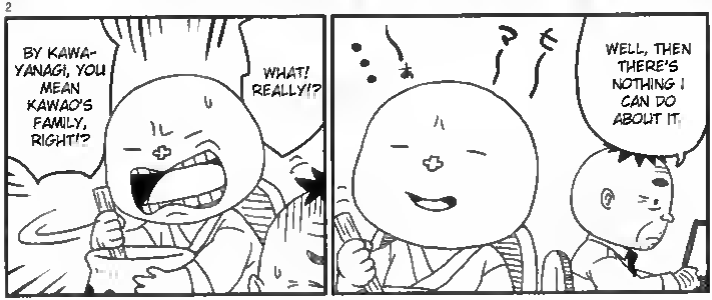
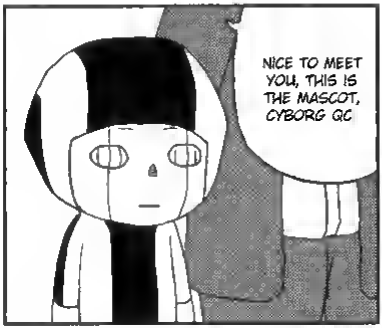


THE FREELOADER'S ROOM

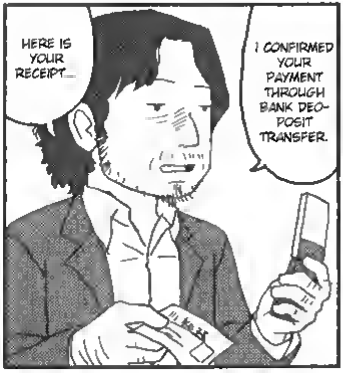

YES. THEY SAID THAT THEY FOUND A MASCOT AT ANOTHER AGENCY.
AH, NOTHING LIKE ENJOY-ING YOUR FREE TIME
THE KAWAY-ANAGI FAMILY FROM 3RD BLOCK CANCELED THEIR ORDER?
あー ヒマだ
ショップ
っしゃいませ

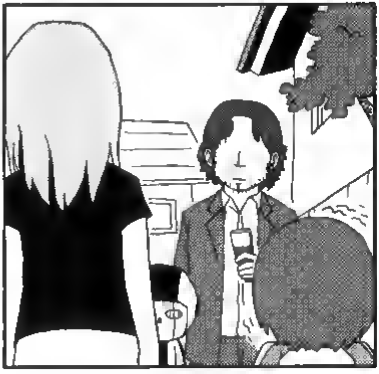
2




NICE TO MEET YOU, THIS IS THE MASCOT, CYBORG GC

A C-C-CYBORG MASCOT!!!
HE'S FINALLY HERE...
ナリキュー"


HERE IS YOUR RECEIPT...
I CONFIRMED YOUR PAYMENT THROUGH BANK DEPOSIT TRANSFER.



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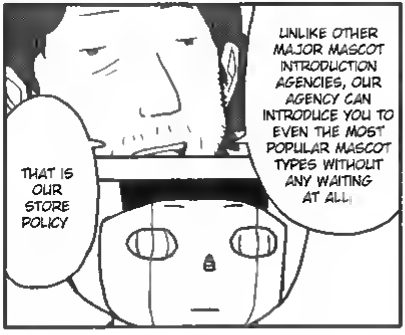
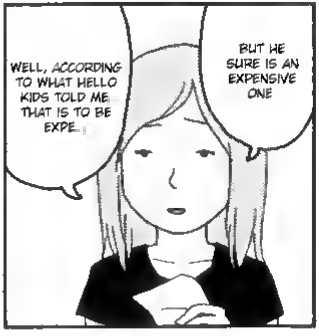
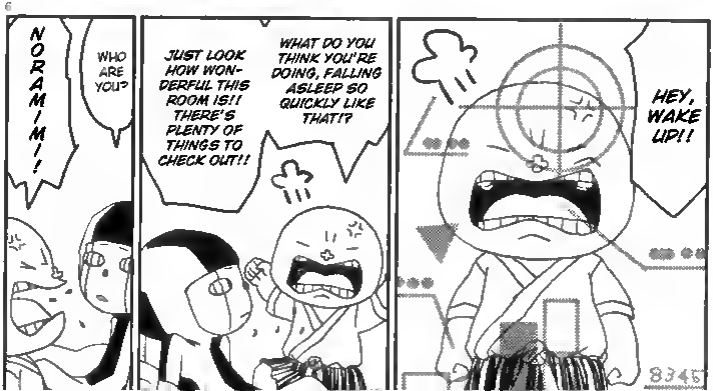

UNLIKE OTHER MAJOR MASCOT INTRODUCTION AGENCIES, OUR AGENCY CAN INTRODUCE YOU TO EVEN THE MOST POPULAR MASCOT TYPES WITHOUT ANY WAITING AT ALL.
THAT IS OUR STORE POLICY


WELL, ACCORDING TO WHAT HELLO KIDS TOLD ME, THAT IS TO BE EXPE...
BUT HE SURE IS AN EXPENSIVE ONE

BUT MY SON'S BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO IT FOR SO LONG
THAT'S QUITE TRUE HELLO KIDS HAD US ON THE WAITING LIST...
A CYBORG !!!
ARE YOU HAPPY, KAWAO?
THAT KAWAO WAS MAKING QUITE A FUSS WHEN HE SAID HE WOULDN'T SETTLE FOR ANY OTHER MASCOT THAN A CYBORG...
SHEE-SH
YOU'RE WEL-COME
THANK YOU VERY MUCH

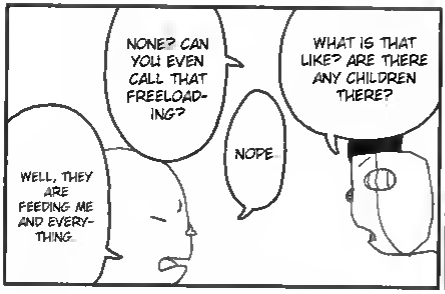
WELL ?
AH, YES
WELL?
HOW IS IT? YOU LIKE IT?
ナデナデ
I'VE PREPARED YOUR ROOM SINCE SO LONG AGO
ARE YOU SURPRISED?
ウフフ
I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THOSE TOO WELL SINCE I AM A CYBORG..
HAPPINESS AND EMOTIONS OF PLEASURE
5
WELL?
HOW IS IT?
ナデナデ
TRY IT OUT RIGHT NOW!!
HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU! THIS IS AN EXTREMELY FLUFFY BED!
バフ
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! BECAUSE YOU'RE A CYBORG!! IT'S ALRIGHT, YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IT WITHIN SOON FOR SURE!!
ナデナデ

PLEASE DO NOT WAKE ME UP
I AM TIRED FOR TODAY SO I SHALL GO TO SLEEP LIKE THIS...
WHAT!
I CAN NOT UNDERSTAND VERY WELL...
.....


NORAMIMI!
WHO ARE YOU?
JUST LOOK HOW WONDERFUL THIS ROOM IS!! THERE'S PLENTY OF THINGS TO CHECK OUT!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, FALLING ASLEEP SO QUICKLY LIKE THAT!?
HEY, WAKE UP!!

DESIGNED BY NONE OTHER THAN ME
THIS ROOM... IS THE PERFECT ROOM.
SO GIVE HIM A LOT OF GOOD ADVICE, OKAY?
HE'S A REALLY IMPOR-TANT MASCOT.
I THOUGHT THE SLIDE SET MIGHT GET IN THE WAY, BUT IT HELPS BRING OUT A SENSE OF PERFECTION AND FULLNESS TO THE ROOM SO I ADDED IT IN AS WELL...
AND OVER THERE WE HAVE SHELVES THAT ARE PERFECTLY SIZED TO STORE SOME SYRUP JARS
IN THE CENTER OF THE ROOM IS THE RICE CAKE POUNDING SET...
HEY, LISTEN TO ME!!
AND SO, ALL OF THESE COMBINE TOGETHER TO CREATE THE PER-

BUT HE FREELOADS AT HELLO KIDS.
NORAMIMI MAY BE A STRANGE MASCOT,
I DO NOT KNOW WHO YOU ARE BUT PLEASE RETURN BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM.
YOU ARE VERY NOISY. MY HEAD IS BEGIN-NING TO ACHE.
AREN'T YOU GLAD TO HAVE FOUND A FAMILY!?
WHAT'S WITH YOUR ATTI-TUDE!?


NONE? CAN YOU EVEN CALL THAT FREELOADING?
WHAT IS THAT LIKE? ARE THERE ANY CHILDREN THERE?
NOPE
WELL, THEY ARE FEEDING ME AND EVERYTHING

FREELOADING AT A MASCOT INTRODUCTION AGENCY..!?

BUT MY HEAD FOR SOME REASON...
AHH THERE IS NO NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THAT
HEY... ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
NO! STOP THINKING!!

IN A MASCOTS LIFE, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU LIVE LIKE THIS
SHEESH THESE THINGS HAPPEN

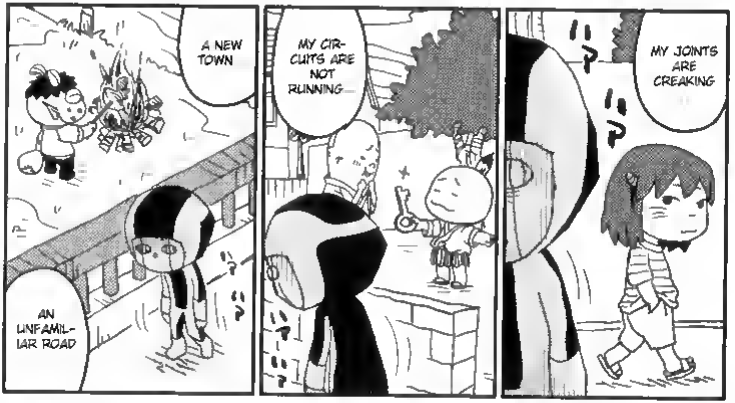
WHAT IS THIS NEW CONCEPT!?
TOO DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND
FREE LOADING AT HELLO KIDS AGENCY
WHAT IS FREELOADING TO BEGIN WITH ANYWAYS?

IS HE HURT!?
MUST HAVE CONFUSED HIM TOO MUCH.
SHEESH

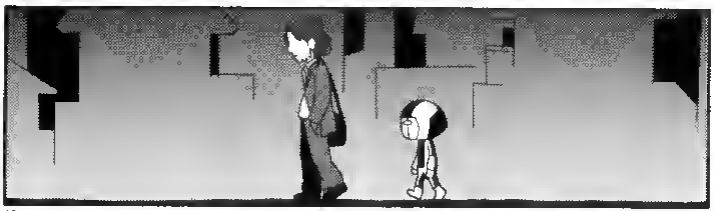
WE'RE HAVING A SPECIAL DINNER TONIGHT FOR YOU
QC... PLEASE COME BACK HOME
ナイスーブ

ANY MORE UNNECESSARY INFORMATION!
NO! I DON'T WANT TO KNOW,
H-HEY!

SOME-
THING IS
STRANGE
STRANGE

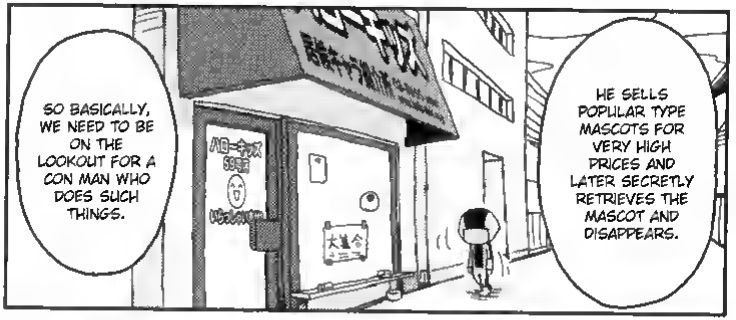

A NEW
TOWN
AN
UNFAMIL-
IAR ROAD
MY CIR-
CUITS ARE
NOT
RUNNING
MY JOINTS
ARE
CREAKING

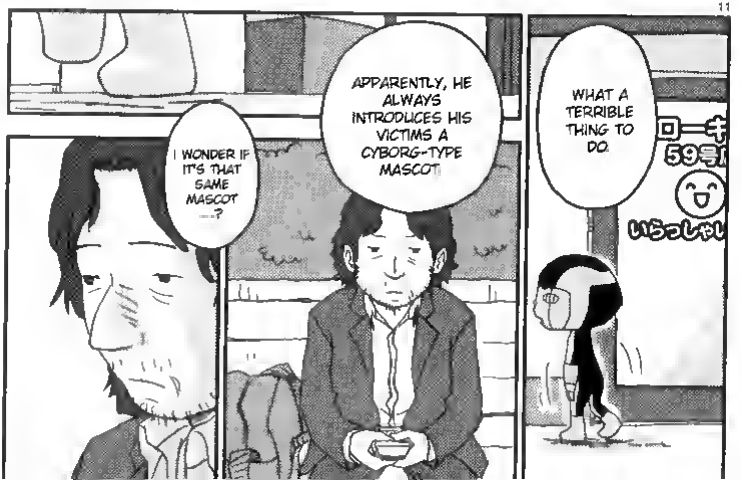
トン
トン
トン
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
IT IS
USUALLY
MUCH
MORE

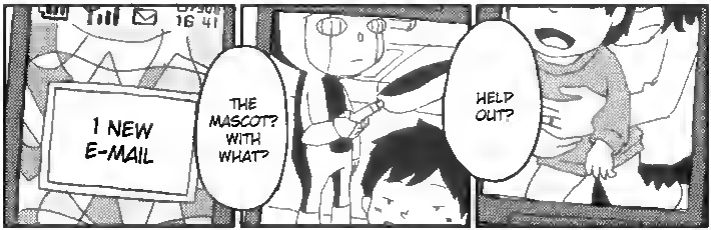


THIS BUSINESS IS VERY PROFIT-ABLE.
WE'RE ALL BOOKED WITH ORDERS.
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, PAUL.
?
WHERE IS THE NEXT PLACE?
IT'S A LITTLE FAR FROM HERE
BUT AS LONG AS WE'RE THERE BY NEXT WEEK. IT'LL BE FINE
ANY PROB-LEMS?
YES IT'LL BE SOON
NONE AT ALL.

IT'S A NOTICE ABOUT AN UNSCRUPULOUS INDIVIDUAL INTRODUCING MASCOTS ON HIS OWN.
注意
THERE'S BEEN A NOTICE TO ALL STORES OF THE HELLO KIDS BRANCH...
EVERYONE, GATHER AROUND.


SO BASICALLY, WE NEED TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A CON MAN WHO DOES SUCH THINGS.
HE SELLS POPULAR TYPE MASCOTS FOR VERY HIGH PRICES AND LATER SECRETLY RETRIEVES THE MASCOT AND DISAPPEARS.


I WONDER IF IT'S THAT SAME MASCOT ...?
APPARENTLY, HE ALWAYS INTRODUCES HIS VICTIMS A CYBORG-TYPE MASCOT.
WHAT A TERRIBLE THING TO DO.
いらっしゃい

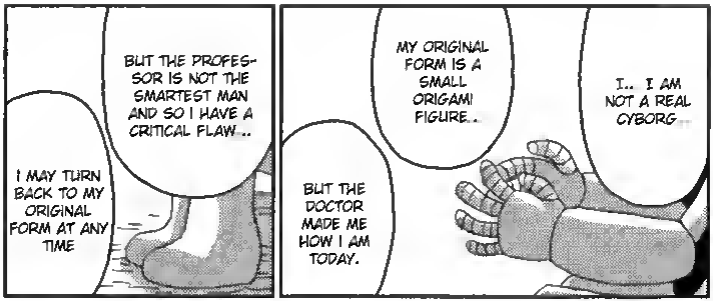

1 NEW E-MAIL
THE MASCOT? WITH WHAT?
HELP OUT?

..YES, OF COURSE. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR QUESTIONS

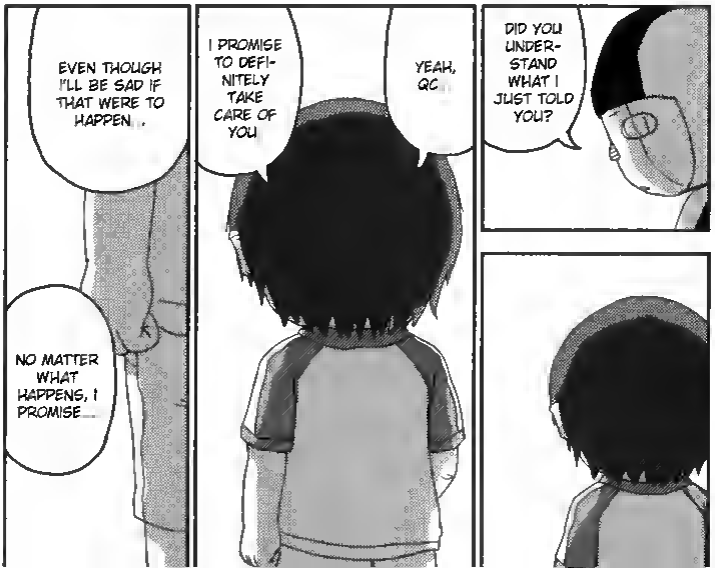
WHERE .. IS THIS PLACE?
I HOPE OUR CYBORG TYPE MASCOT MEETS YOUR EXPECTATIONS.

I... DO NOT EAT HUMAN FOOD..
カチャ
DINNER'S READY

THAT I NEED TO TELL YOU.
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH .. I HAVE SOMETHING,


I.. I AM NOT A REAL CYBORG...
MY ORIGINAL FORM IS A SMALL ORIGAMI FIGURE..
BUT THE DOCTOR MADE ME HOW I AM TODAY.
BUT THE PROFESSOR IS NOT THE SMARTEST MAN AND SO I HAVE A CRITICAL FLAW..
I MAY TURN BACK TO MY ORIGINAL FORM AT ANY TIME

IF THAT HAPPENS, DON'T PANIC AND DON'T TELL ANYONE
JUST PUT ME AWAY SAFELY SOMEWHERE
I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TALK OR MOVE ANYMORE.
BUT THE PROFESSOR MIGHT COME BACK AND FIX ME SOMEDAY...


DID YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I JUST TOLD YOU?
YEAH, QC...
I PROMISE TO DEFINITELY TAKE CARE OF YOU
EVEN THOUGH I'LL BE SAD IF THAT WERE TO HAPPEN...
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I PROMISE...

ナノチューブ
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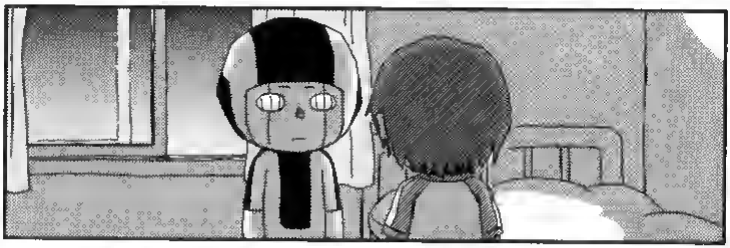
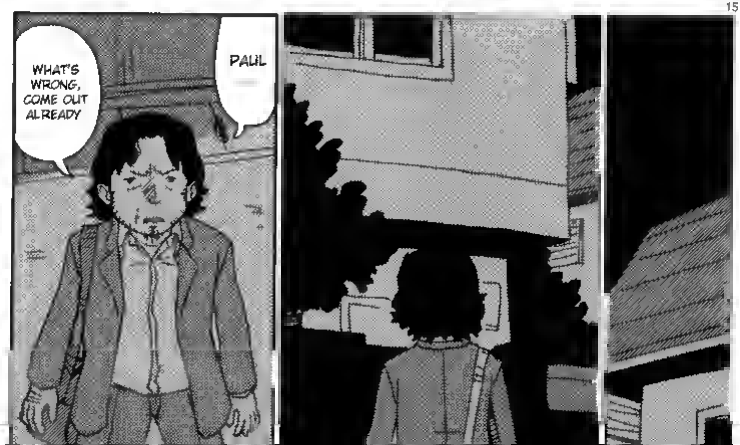
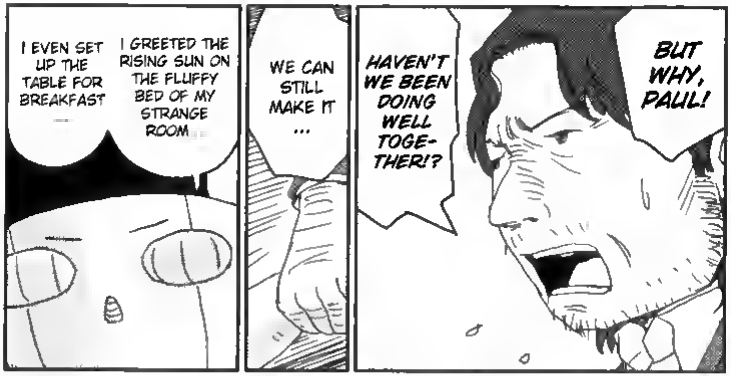



WHAT'S WRONG, COME OUT ALREADY
PAUL

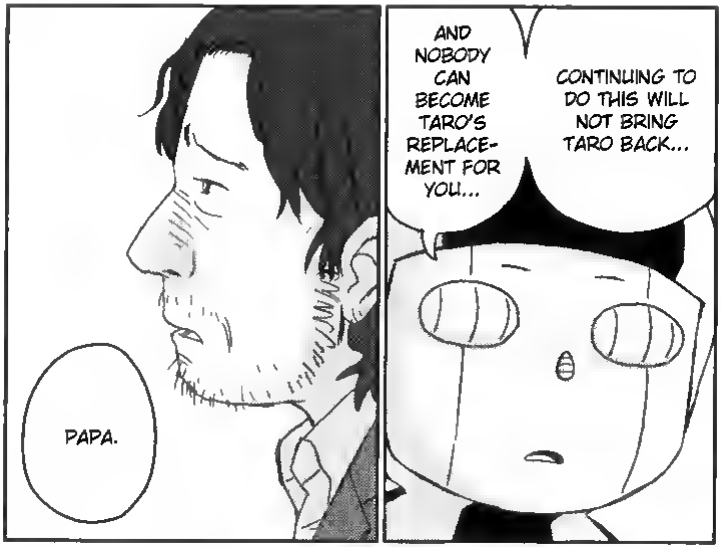
YOU'RE THAT CON MAN!!
AHH!
JUST WHAT ARE YOU DO!
PAUL... I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU
SO COME ON PAUL, LET'S HUR...
IF SOMEONE ELSE COMES, THIS'LL BE VERY BAD...
I TOLD HIM EVERYTHING.
NO.

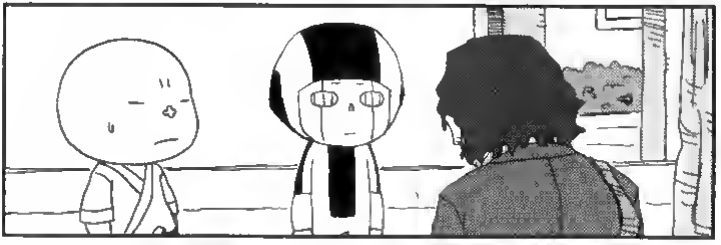
I HAVE REACHED MY LIMIT ...
LET US PUT AN END TO THIS.


I EVEN SET UP THE TABLE FOR BREAKFAST
I GREETED THE RISING SUN ON THE FLUFFY BED OF MY STRANGE ROOM
WE CAN STILL MAKE IT ...
HAVEN'T WE BEEN DOING WELL TOGE-THER!?
BUT WHY, PAUL!

DON'T SAY THAT...
I AM GOING TO FREELOAD AT KAWAO'S HOME.
I WILL NOT RUN AWAY ANYMORE

THEY'RE ALL CRYING BECAUSE OF YOU!
HEY, WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE KIDS YOU CONNED!!
SAY THAT PAUL...
PLEASE DON'T...
IF EVEN YOU LEAVE ME, I'LL BE ALL ALONE. WHAT'LL I DO THEN...
KIDS... KIDS ARE ALL HAPPY TO GET A POPULAR-TYPE MASCOT...
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, PAUL?
TARO IS NO LONGER IN THIS WORLD.

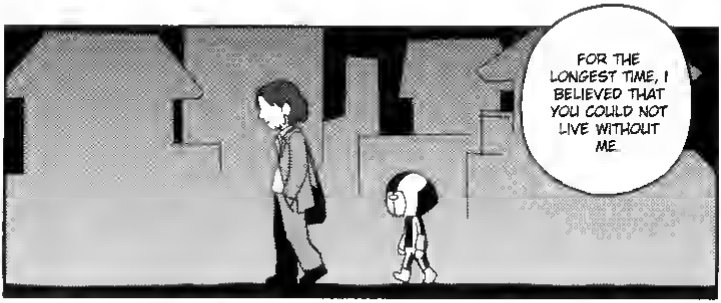

PAPA.
CONTINUING TO DO THIS WILL NOT BRING TARO BACK...
AND NOBODY CAN BECOME TARO'S REPLACE-MENT FOR YOU...

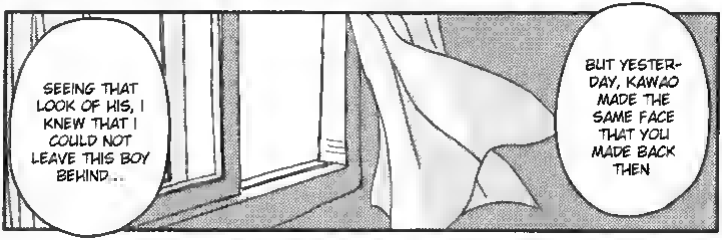


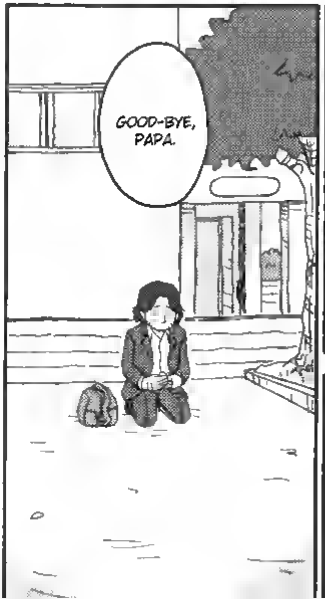
19

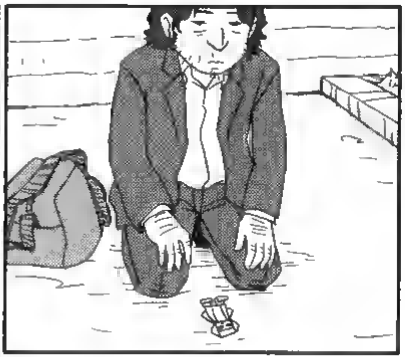
AREN'T ALL KIDS GLAD TO BE ABLE TO HAVE A POPULAR-TYPE MASCOT...
THIS IS THE ONLY THING I CAN DO...
WHY WHY WAS ONLY MY SON

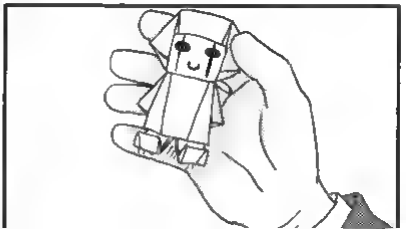
PAPA... WE WALKED TOGETHER IN THE NIGHT FOR A LONG TIME...
I ACTUALLY ENJOYED DOING THAT WITH YOU...
KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
トン
トン
トン
20
YOU'VE COME BACK TO ME
LET'S GO TO A NEW HOME WHERE THERE'S ANOTHER CHILD,
WAITING FOR YOU

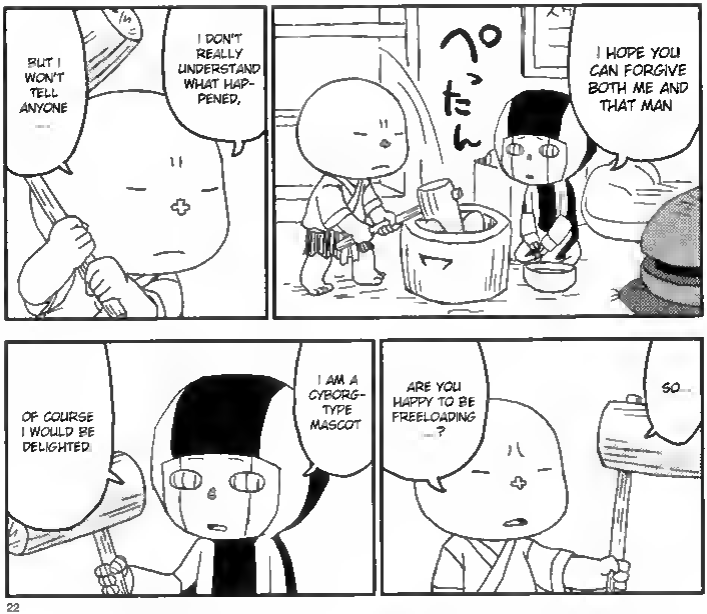

FOR THE LONGEST TIME, I BELIEVED THAT YOU COULD NOT LIVE WITHOUT ME.


SEEING THAT LOOK OF HIS, I KNEW THAT I COULD NOT LEAVE THIS BOY BEHIND...
BUT YESTERDAY, KAWAO MADE THE SAME FACE THAT YOU MADE BACK THEN

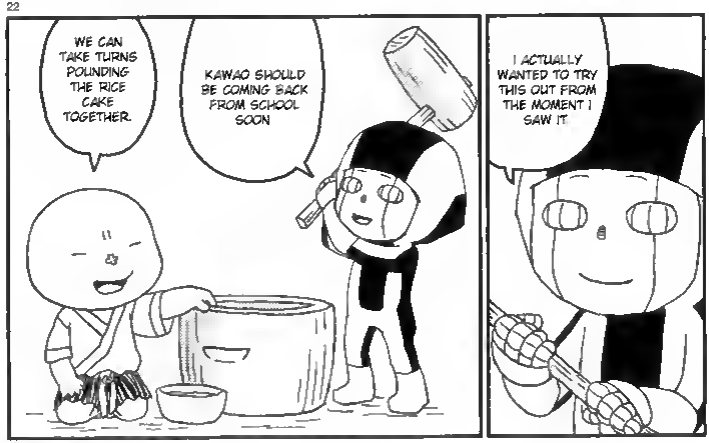

GOOD-BYE, PAPA.






I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED,
BUT I WON'T TELL ANYONE
ぺったん
I HOPE YOU CAN FORGIVE BOTH ME AND THAT MAN
I AM A CYBORG-TYPE MASCOT
OF COURSE I WOULD BE DELIGHTED
ARE YOU HAPPY TO BE FREELOADING ...?
SO...

22


WE CAN TAKE TURNS POUNDING THE RICE CAKE TOGETHER.
KAWAO SHOULD BE COMING BACK FROM SCHOOL SOON
I ACTUALLY WANTED TO TRY THIS OUT FROM THE MOMENT I SAW IT.

Mascot Profile

ID No.	00059199
Mascot Type	Cyborg
Name	The Cyborg Paul Blackpack

No. Families Serviced	23
Special Skills	Any work requiring precision (Plastic model making, origami, etc.)
Favourite Food	Olive oil, omelette rice.
Motto	Black and white, front and back
Preferred Family	Family with a boy (clumsy and wearing glasses)
Message	Nice to meet you
Further Notes	A very popular mascot among boys, waiting list required.

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Translated by Hox

About Mascot Introduction Agencies

◎What is an individual-run mascot introduction agency?

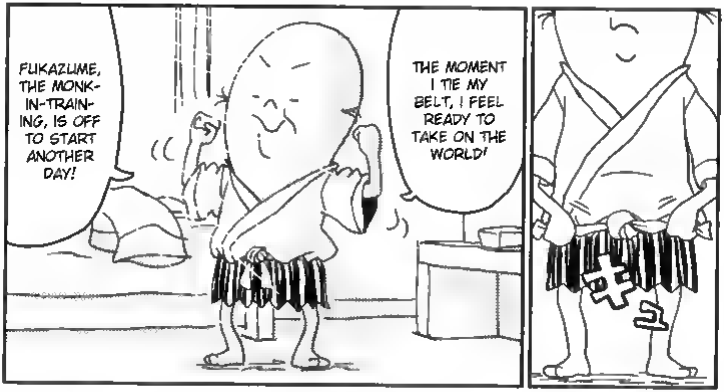
It is the norm to find a mascot through an official mascot introduction agency. "Hello Kids" and "Mascot World" are the two biggest companies that hold the largest influence in the mascot market today. But aside from these two companies, there are many other small businesses that can also introduce mascots. An individual-run mascot introduction agency is one of these small run businesses where a single individual introduces families to mascots. They are very rare to find and represent a small minority though.

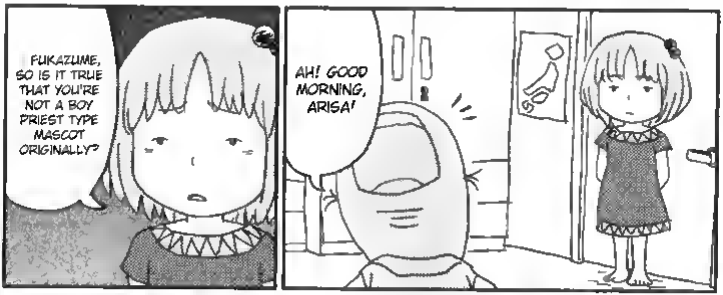
◎Don't need mascot introduction agencies!?

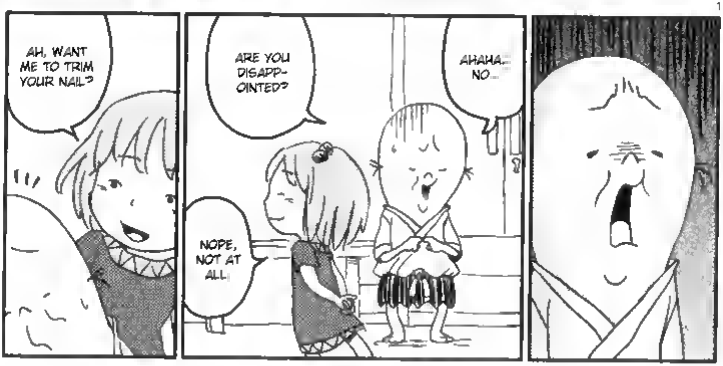
The data for the number of mascots introduced by individual-run mascot introduction agencies do not tell the entire truth. A large majority of these instances are cases in which a mascot is introduced by a previously known acquaintance (and as such, there were no payments).

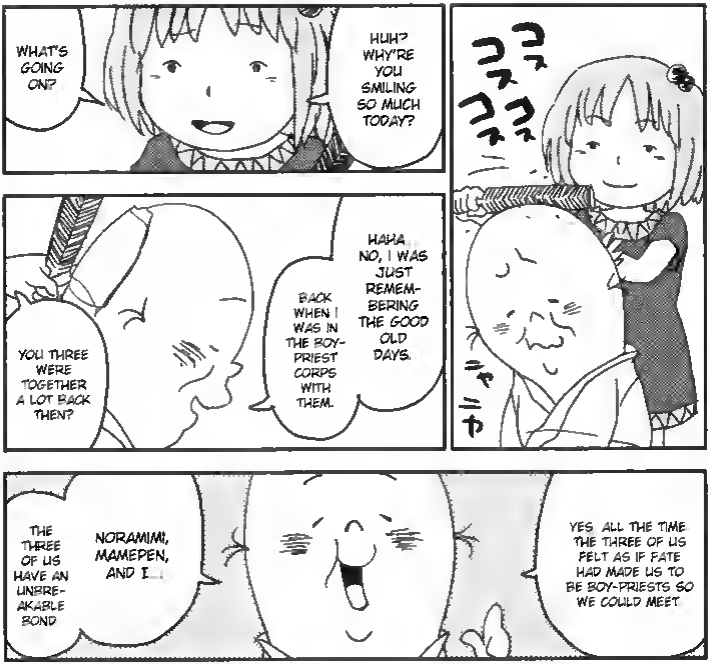
- ○ from your town's local matchmaker
- ○ from a relative (ex. a mascot from your cousin)
- ○ through the mascot's connections (ex. your friend's mascot's friend)
- ○ random chance (ex. coincidentally found an available mascot in town)

Though cases like the above can happen, the occurrence of troubles or other complications resulting from unofficial mascot introduction agencies cannot be denied. There are also many unscrupulous individuals tricking people with fake mascots or other frauds. An official mascot introduction agency not only ensures that such problems will not occur, but it will also assist with any problems your mascot might encounter in the future. As such, using an official mascot introduction agency is the norm in these days.

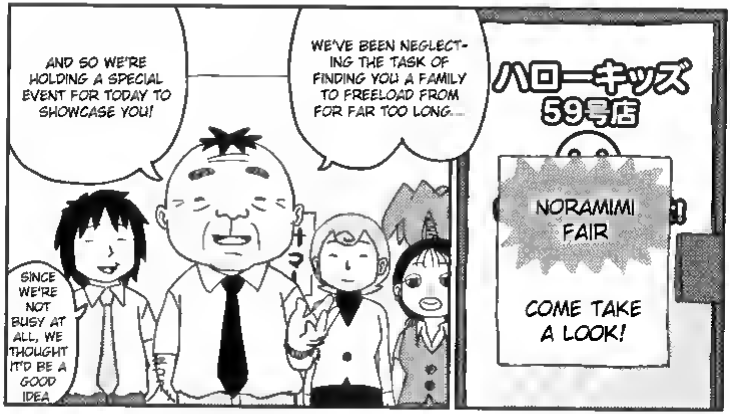

FUKAZUME, THE MONK-IN-TRAIN-ING, IS OFF TO START ANOTHER DAY!
THE MOMENT I TIE MY BELT, I FEEL READY TO TAKE ON THE WORLD!

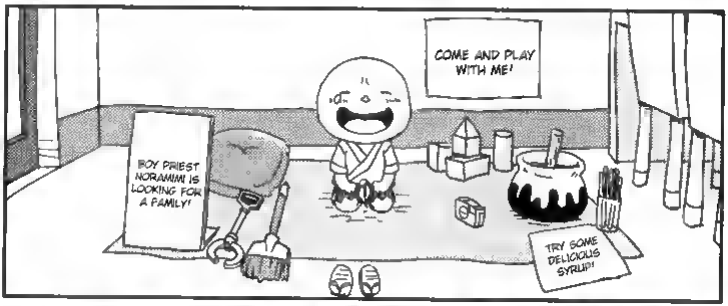

FUKAZUME, SO IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'RE NOT A BOY PRIEST TYPE MASCOT ORIGINALLY?
AH! GOOD MORNING, ARISA!

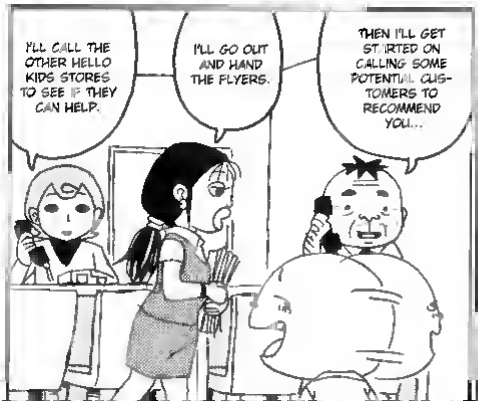

AH, WANT ME TO TRIM YOUR NAIL?
ARE YOU DISAPP-OINTED?
NOPE, NOT AT ALL.
AHAHA... NO...


WHAT'S GOING ON?
HUH? WHY'RE YOU SMILING SO MUCH TODAY?
HAHA... NO, I WAS JUST REMEMBERING THE GOOD OLD DAYS.
BACK WHEN I WAS IN THE BOY-PRIEST CORPS WITH THEM.
YOU THREE WERE TOGETHER A LOT BACK THEN?
NIYA NIYA
THE THREE OF US HAVE AN UNBREAKABLE BOND
NORAMIMI, MAMEPEN, AND I...
YES. ALL THE TIME THE THREE OF US FELT AS IF FATE HAD MADE US TO BE BOY-PRIESTS SO WE COULD MEET.

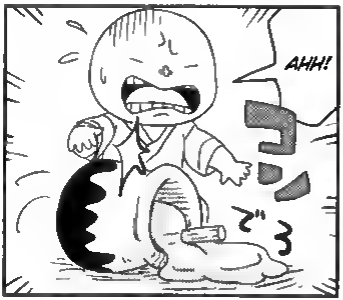
I WONDER HOW THEY'RE DOING...?
BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN THE TWO OF THEM MUCH THESE DAYS...
3匹のこぼうず


AND SO WE'RE HOLDING A SPECIAL EVENT FOR TODAY TO SHOWCASE YOU!
WE'VE BEEN NEGLECTING THE TASK OF FINDING YOU A FAMILY TO FREELOAD FROM FOR FAR TOO LONG...
ハローキッズ59号店
NORAMIMI FAIR
COME TAKE A LOOK!
SINCE WE'RE NOT BUSY AT ALL, WE THOUGHT IT'D BE A GOOD IDEA


COME AND PLAY WITH ME!
BOY PRIEST NORAMIMI IS LOOKING FOR A FAMILY!
TRY SOME DELICIOUS SYRUP!


I'LL CALL THE OTHER HELLO KIDS STORES TO SEE IF THEY CAN HELP.
I'LL GO OUT AND HAND THE FLYERS.
THEN I'LL GET STARTED ON CALLING SOME POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS TO RECOMMEND YOU...

IT'S LIKE A DREAM...
TO THINK THAT SUCH A DAY WOULD HAPPEN...


AHH!
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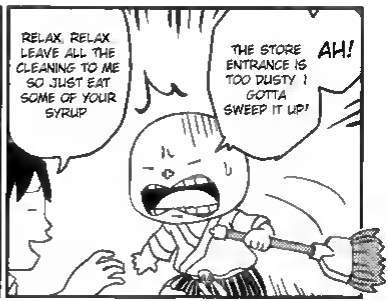
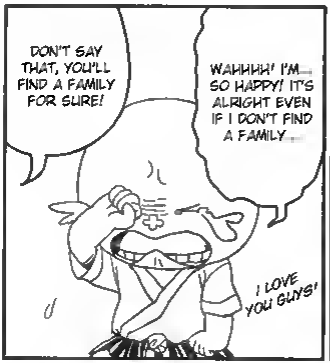
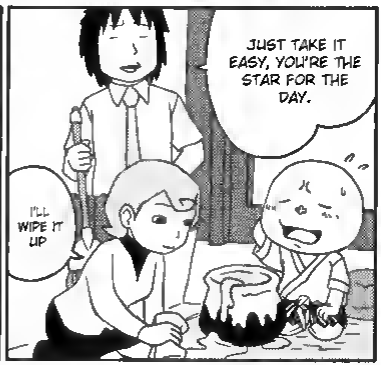
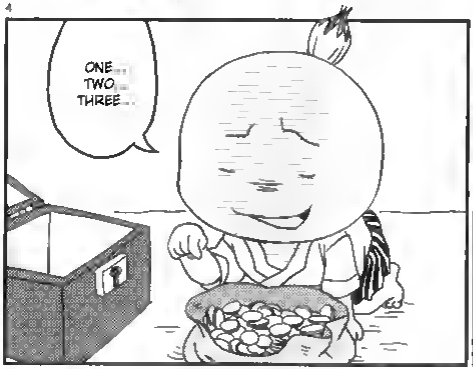
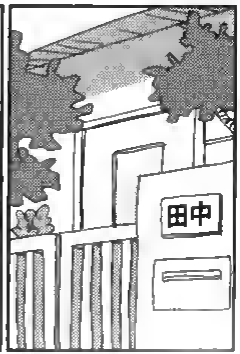

RELAX, RELAX LEAVE ALL THE CLEANING TO ME SO JUST EAT SOME OF YOUR SYRUP
THE STORE ENTRANCE IS TOO DUSTY I GOTTA SWEEP IT UP!
AH!


DON'T SAY THAT, YOU'LL FIND A FAMILY FOR SURE!
WAHHHH! I'M... SO HAPPY! IT'S ALRIGHT EVEN IF I DON'T FIND A FAMILY...
I LOVE YOU GUYS!


JUST TAKE IT EASY, YOU'RE THE STAR FOR THE DAY.
I'LL WIPE IT UP

4


ONE... TWO... THREE...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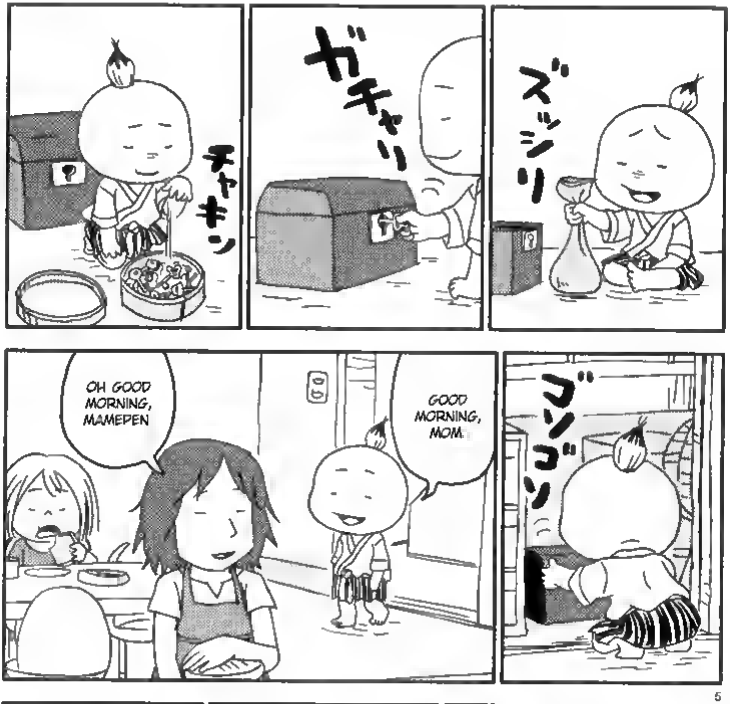
チャキン
ガチャリ
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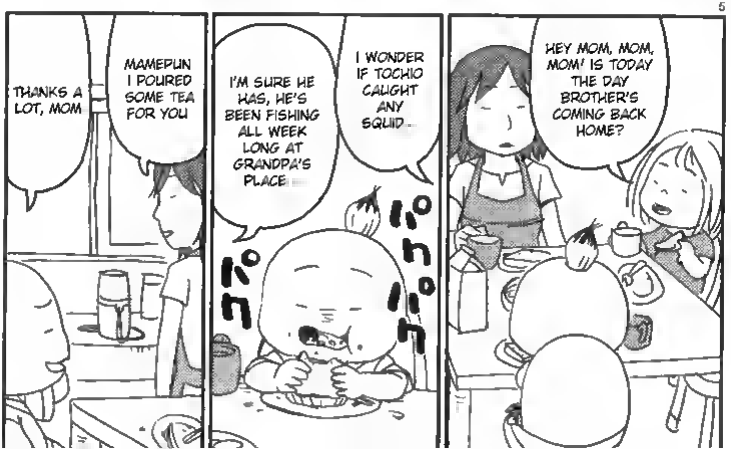
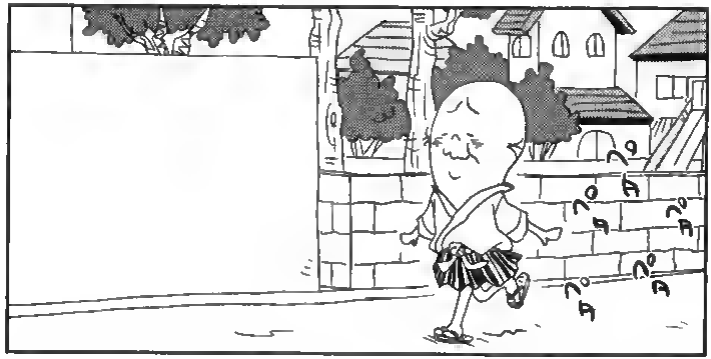
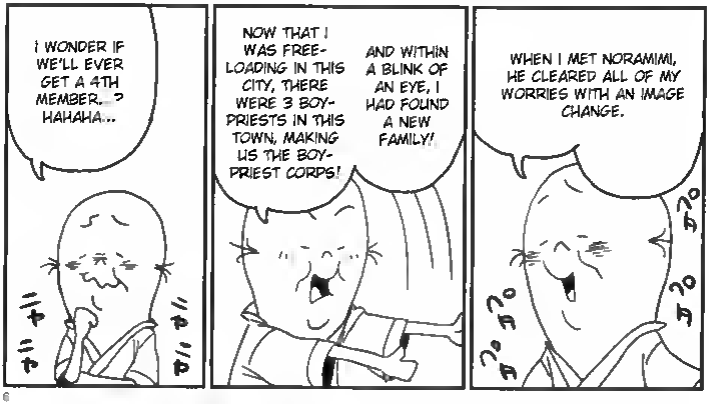
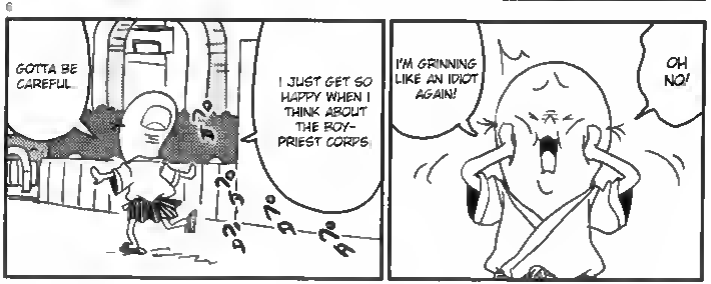
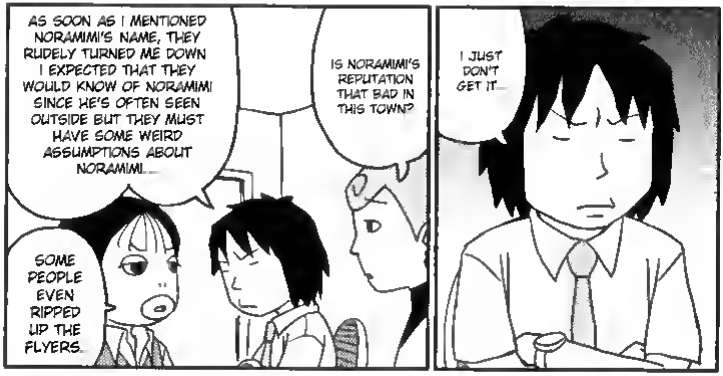
OH GOOD MORNING, MAMEPEN
GOOD MORNING, MOM
ゴソゴソ

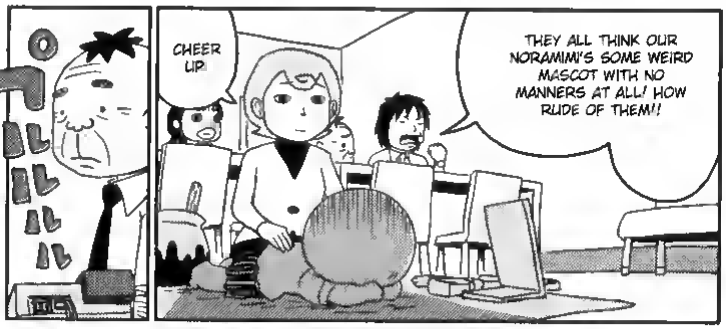

THANKS A LOT, MOM
MAMEPUN I POURED SOME TEA FOR YOU
I'M SURE HE WAS, HE'S BEEN FISHING ALL WEEK LONG AT GRANDPA'S PLACE
I WONDER IF TOCHIO CAUGHT ANY SQUID
パクパク
パクパク
HEY MOM, MOM, MOM! IS TODAY THE DAY BROTHER'S COMING BACK HOME?

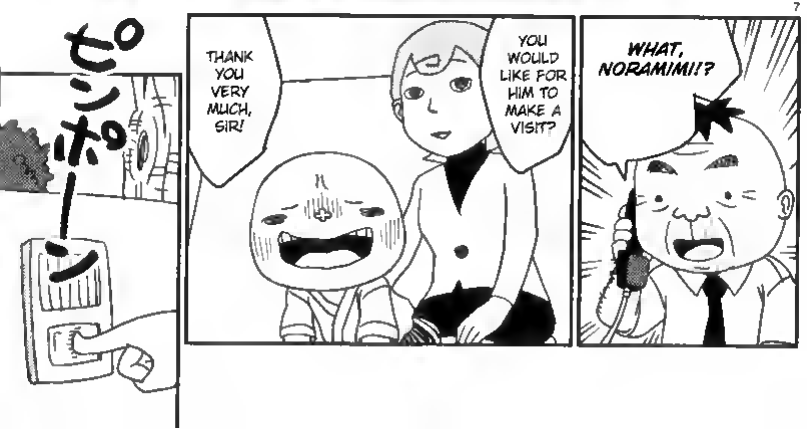



I WONDER IF WE'LL EVER GET A 4TH MEMBER...? HAHAHA...
NOW THAT I WAS FREE-LOADING IN THIS CITY, THERE WERE 3 BOY-PRIESTS IN THIS TOWN, MAKING US THE BOY-PRIEST CORPS!
AND WITHIN A BLINK OF AN EYE, I HAD FOUND A NEW FAMILY!
WHEN I MET NORAMIMI, HE CLEARED ALL OF MY WORRIES WITH AN IMAGE CHANGE.


GOTTA BE CAREFUL.
I JUST GET SO HAPPY WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE BOY-PRIEST CORPS.
I'M GRINNING LIKE AN IDIOT AGAIN!
OH NO!

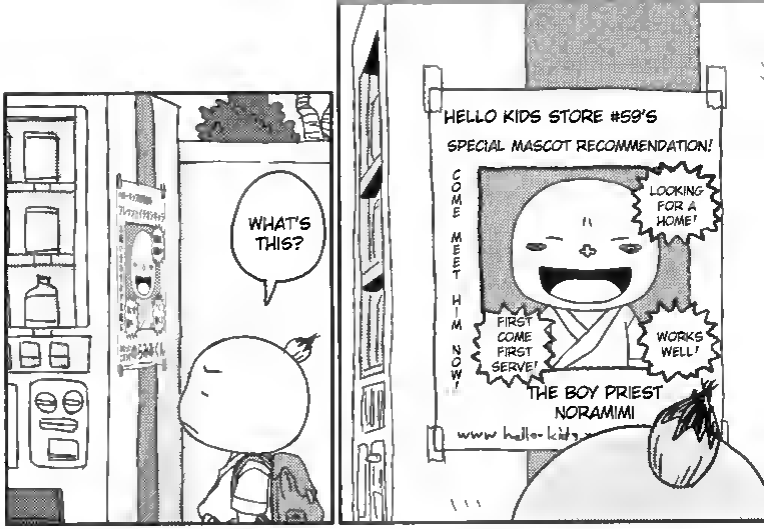

AS SOON AS I MENTIONED NORAMIMI'S NAME, THEY RUDELY TURNED ME DOWN I EXPECTED THAT THEY WOULD KNOW OF NORAMIMI SINCE HE'S OFTEN SEEN OUTSIDE BUT THEY MUST HAVE SOME WEIRD ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT NORAMIMI.....
IS NORAMIMI'S REPUTATION THAT BAD IN THIS TOWN?
SOME PEOPLE EVEN RIPPED UP THE FLYERS...
I JUST DON'T GET IT....

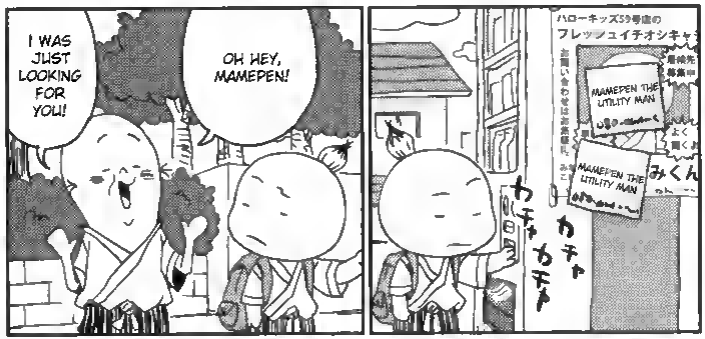

プルルルル
CHEER UP.
THEY ALL THINK OUR NORAMIMI'S SOME WEIRD MASCOT WITH NO MANNERS AT ALL! HOW RUDE OF THEM!!


ピンポーン
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR!
YOU WOULD LIKE FOR HIM TO MAKE A VISIT?
WHAT, NORAMIMI!?

がらら
YOU PEOPLE CAME QUICKLY.
HEL...
HELLO, FATHER OF MY FUTURE-FAMILY...
MAYBE THIS TIME I'LL FINALLY FIND A FAMILY!?
HEH HEH. I ALMOST LOST ALL HOPE BUT...
LOOKS LIKE YOUR LUCK'S TURN AROUND!
HUH...?
HOW MUCH WILL IT COST? DO YOU CHARGE BY THE HOUR OR WHAT?
SO ANYWAYS, I NEED THE LAWN OVER THERE CUT.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
THIS IS NORAMIMI THE BOY PRIEST MASCOT!
WHAT?
UMM... WE'RE FROM THE HELLO KIDS MASCOT INTRODUCTION AGENCY...
AH, MY BAD BUT I THOUGHT I SAW YOU EVEN WASHING SOME GUY'S CAR THE OTHER DAY...
OH YOU'RE NOT!?
NO!
YOU'RE NOT THE MISC SERVICES MAN?
カカ
カカ

NORAMIMI
YOU WOULDN'T BE HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME, WOULD YOU NOW...?
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU CRY, LITTLE GUY...
I NEVER EVEN WASHED A CAR.
SNIFF SNIFF
H-HANDA
EVEN YOU'RE DOUBTING ME...!?
HMM GUESS IT MIGHT'VE BEEN MY MISTAKE
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I MAY HAVE SEEN A DIFFERENT MASCOT...
BUT I'M CERTAIN HE WAS A BOY PRIEST...
BOY PRIEST?
BOY PRIEST
EARNS MONEY
HAS A BAD REP
IT'S HIM!!


WHAT'S THIS?
HELLO KIDS STORE #59'S
SPECIAL MASCOT RECOMMENDATION!
COME MEET HIM NOW!
LOOKING FOR A HOME!
FIRST COME FIRST SERVE!
WORKS WELL!
THE BOY PRIEST NORAMIMI
www.hello-kid


I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR YOU!
OH HEY, MAMEPEN!
MAMEPEN THE UTILITY MAN
MAMEPEN THE UTILITY MAN
カチャ
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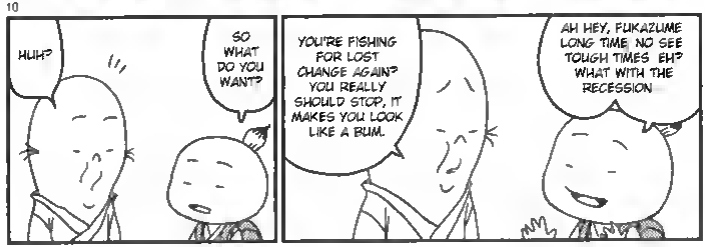
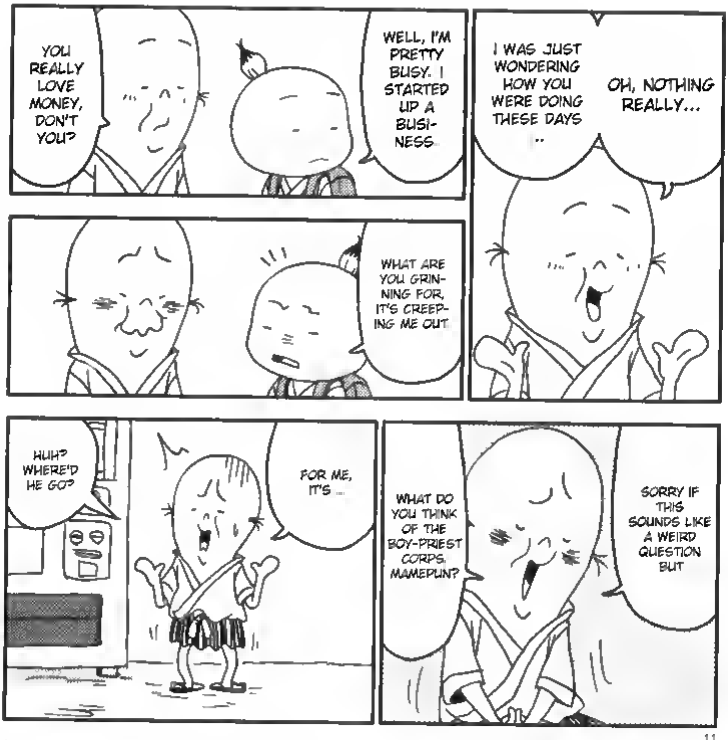
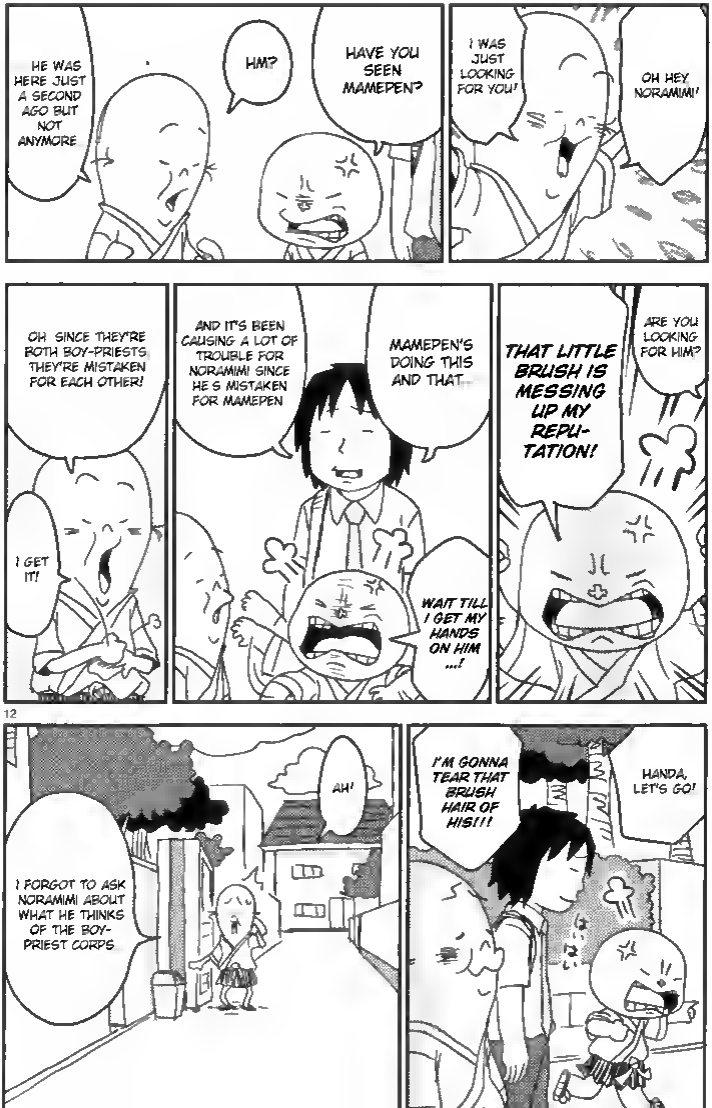
10

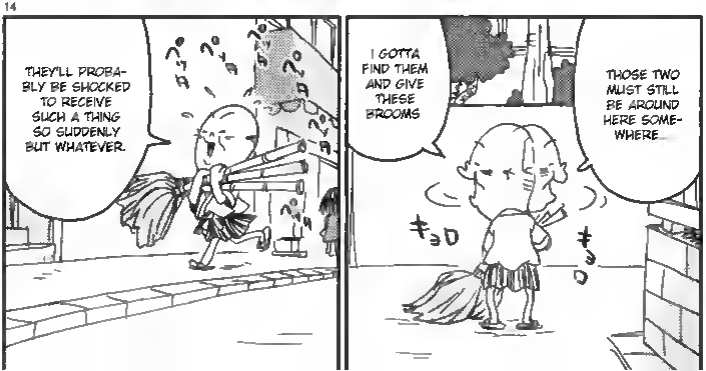

HUH?
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YOU'RE FISHING FOR LOST CHANGE AGAIN? YOU REALLY SHOULD STOP, IT MAKES YOU LOOK LIKE A BUM.
AH HEY, FUKAZUME LONG TIME NO SEE TOUGH TIMES EH? WHAT WITH THE RECESSION


YOU REALLY LOVE MONEY, DON'T YOU?
WELL, I'M PRETTY BUSY. I STARTED UP A BUSINESS
I WAS JUST WONDERING HOW YOU WERE DOING THESE DAYS...
OH, NOTHING REALLY...
WHAT ARE YOU GRINNING FOR, IT'S CREEPING ME OUT
HUH? WHERE'D HE GO?
FOR ME, IT'S...
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE BOY-PRIEST CORPS, MAMEPUN?
SORRY IF THIS SOUNDS LIKE A WEIRD QUESTION BUT
AHH!
HEY, FUKAZUME


HE WAS HERE JUST A SECOND AGO BUT NOT ANYMORE
HM?
HAVE YOU SEEN MAMEPEN?
I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR YOU!
OH HEY NORAMIMI!
OH SINCE THEY'RE BOTH BOY-PRIESTS THEY'RE MISTAKEN FOR EACH OTHER!
I GET IT!
AND IT'S BEEN CAUSING A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR NORAMIMI SINCE HE'S MISTAKEN FOR MAMEPEN
MAMEPEN'S DOING THIS AND THAT...
WAIT TILL I GET MY HANDS ON HIM ...!
THAT LITTLE BRUSH IS MESSING UP MY REPU-TATION!
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HIM?
12
I FORGOT TO ASK NORAMIMI ABOUT WHAT HE THINKS OF THE BOY-PRIEST CORPS
AH!
I'M GONNA TEAR THAT BRUSH HAIR OF HIS!!!
HANDA, LET'S GO!

SHINING OBJECT
YOUR SPECIALLY ORDERED
ガサ
DID YOU BRING IT?
JUST LET ME KNOW IF YOU WANT ANY MORE SHINY STUFF
THANKS
I LIKE VERY MUCH
YUP, VERY SHINY
ヒョイ
HERE
チカリチカリ

AH, IT'S ALREADY TIME
キュ
THE TRADE-MARK BROOM FOR ANY GOOD BOY-PRIEST!
THIS'LL BE PERFECT FOR THE BOY-PRIEST CORPS
I FINALLY BOUGHT THEM!
HEH HEH HEH


THEY'LL PROBA-BLY BE SHOCKED TO RECEIVE SUCH A THING SO SUDDENLY BUT WHATEVER.
I GOTTA FIND THEM AND GIVE THESE BROOMS
THOSE TWO MUST STILL BE AROUND HERE SOME-WHERE...
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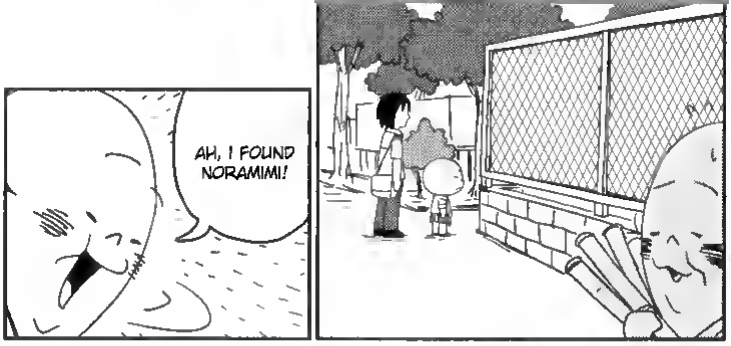
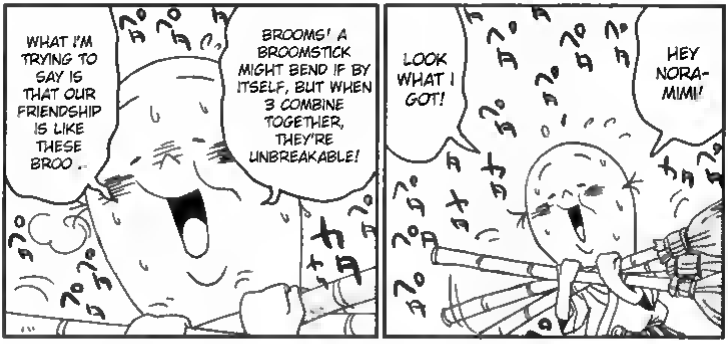
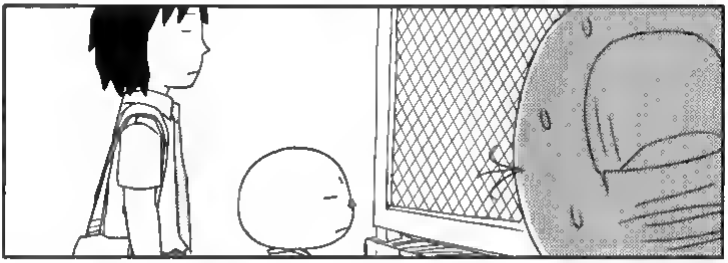
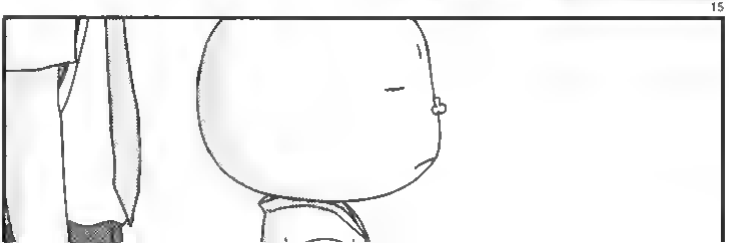
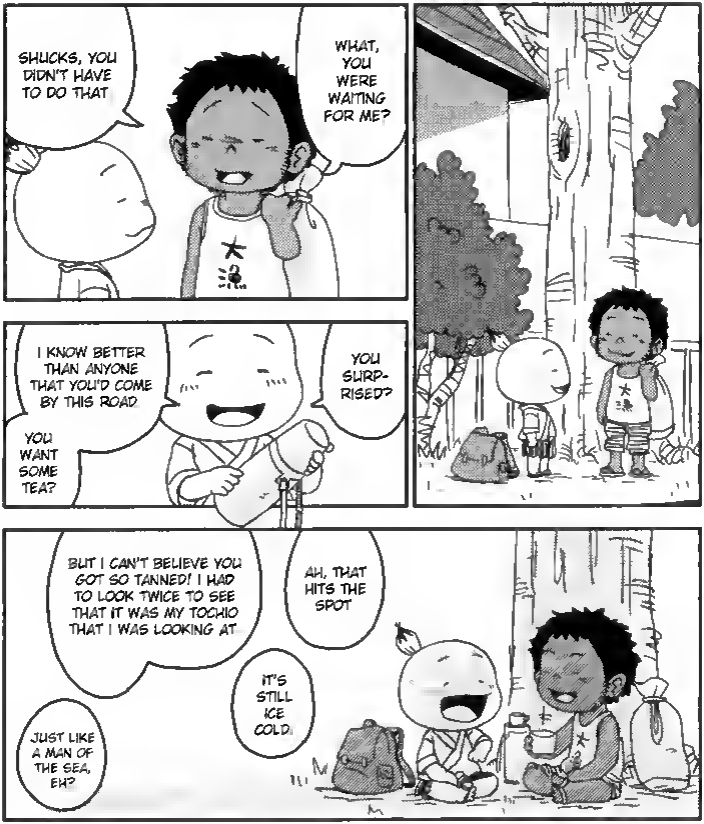

AH, I FOUND NORAMIMI!


WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS THAT OUR FRIENDSHIP IS LIKE THESE BROO..
BROOMS! A BROOMSTICK MIGHT BEND IF BY ITSELF, BUT WHEN 3 COMBINE TOGETHER, THEY'RE UNBREAKABLE!
LOOK WHAT I GOT!
HEY NORA-MIMI!





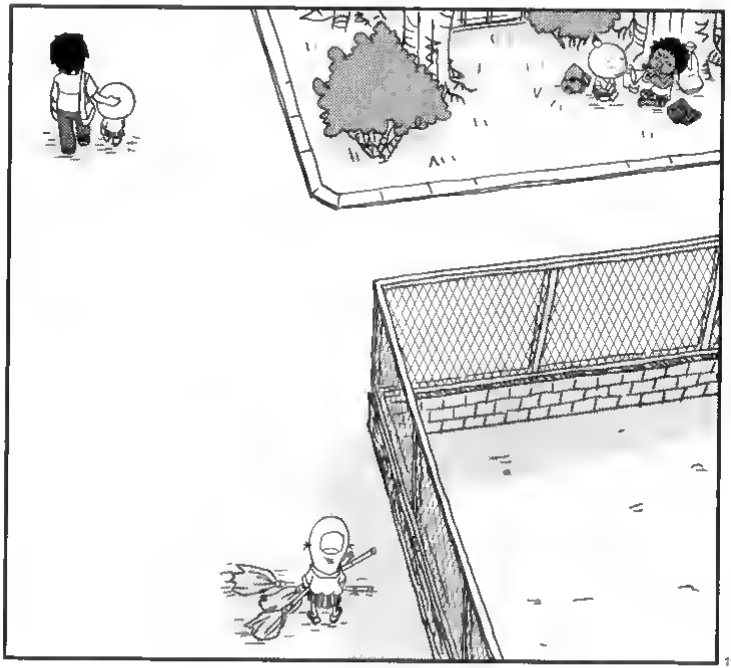

SHUCKS, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THAT.
WHAT, YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME?
I KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE THAT YOU'D COME BY THIS ROAD.
YOU SURPRISED?
YOU WANT SOME TEA?
BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GOT SO TANNED! I HAD TO LOOK TWICE TO SEE THAT IT WAS MY TOCHIO THAT I WAS LOOKING AT.
AH, THAT HITS THE SPOT.
IT'S STILL ICE COLD.
JUST LIKE A MAN OF THE SEA, EH?

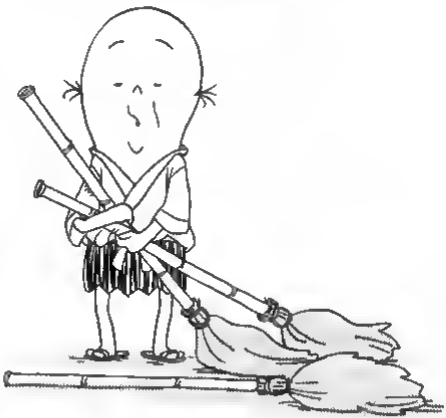
16

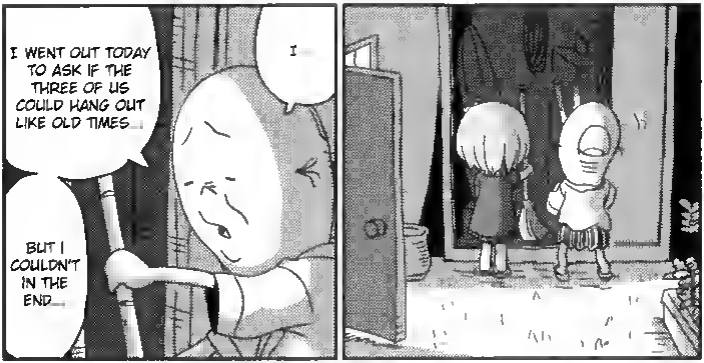
NAH.
HOW WERE THINGS WHILE I WAS GONE? WERE YOU BORED?

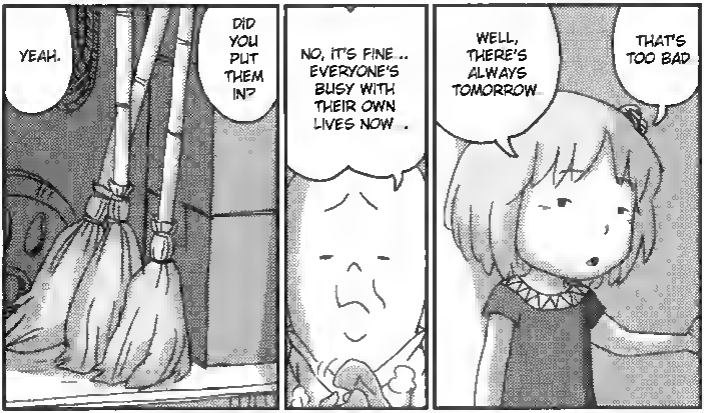
I'VE WANTED ONE FOR SO LONG!
WHAT! IT'S A REAL TRUMPET!
AND YOUR MOM AND SISTER WERE ALL REALLY NICE TO ME
I PLAYED WITH SOME OTHER FRIENDS
HERE, I GOT YOU A GIFT.
SO I HAD TO BUY IT FROM AN AUCTION.
THIS ONE'S A SPECIAL MINI-TRUMPET THAT COMPANIES DON'T EVEN MAKE ANYMORE,
17
I COULD AFFORD IT
NAH, IT WAS NOTHING
IT MUST'VE COST A LOT.

I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO FINDING A FAMILY THIS TIME...
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SAY ANYTHING...
LET'S GO
ALRIGHT
FIND ME A FAMILY SOON, OK?
HANDA...

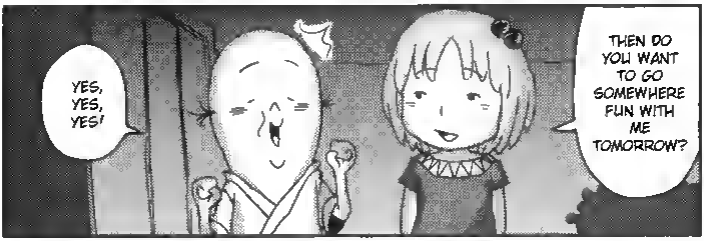





I WENT OUT TODAY TO ASK IF THE THREE OF US COULD HANG OUT LIKE OLD TIMES...
I...
BUT I COULDN'T IN THE END...


YEAH.
DID YOU PUT THEM IN?
NO, IT'S FINE... EVERYONE'S BUSY WITH THEIR OWN LIVES NOW.
WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS TOMORROW.
THAT'S TOO BAD

20

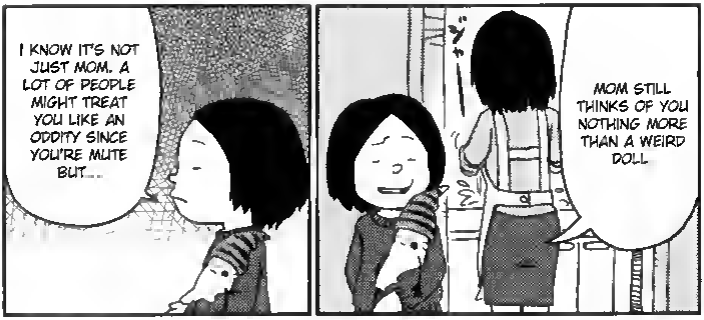

YES, YES, YES!
THEN DO YOU WANT TO GO SOMEWHERE FUN WITH ME TOMORROW?

THE THREE BOY PRIESTS + SISTER
.....
YOU TOUCHED MY BOX WITHOUT MY PERMISSION DIDN'T YOU!
CHIMIE, STOP IGNORING ME!!!
ギク
MAMEPEN, THE BED-WETTER

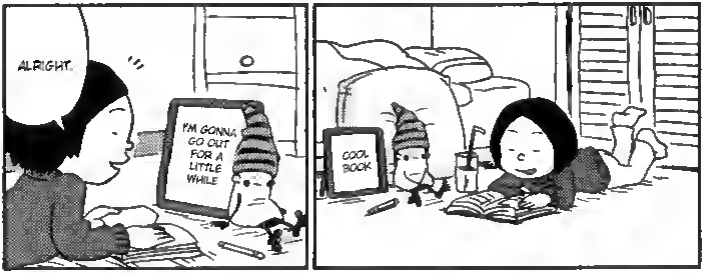
CHIMIE, YOU JERK! I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU DO!!!
I'M GONNA TELL ON BROTHER!
WHA!
HOW DID YOU...!
I SAW YOU SECRETLY TRYING TO WASH YOUR UNDERWEAR YESTERDAY!
A BIG SCARY ONE WITH A FACE LIKE THIS!
I'M GONNA GET A MASCOT TOO NEXT YEAR!
THE DECISION OF A FAMILY GETTING A SECOND MASCOT SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE FIRST MASCOT!
IT'S A PART OF A MASCOT'S RIGHT!!!
HE'S HERE TO COMPLAIN

TRANSLATED BY HOX

NOPE IT'S ACTUALLY 42%!
AROUND 15%?
GUESS WHAT THE PERCENTAGE WAS IN A CLASS OF 6TH GRADERS
THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER WAS TAKING A SURVEY ABOUT HOW MANY STUDENTS TAKE BATHS WITH THEIR MASCOTS
OHH, THAT SOUNDS INTERESTING
MUCH HIGHER THAN I'D HAVE THOUGHT!!
YEAH, AND YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY MASCOT WHO FEELS THAT WAY EITHER BUT EVEN SO, THE TOTAL PERCENTAGE TURNED OUT TO BE 42!
I PERSONALLY DON'T LIKE TAKING BATHS.
MOM'S LOOKING AT ME FUNNILY AT AGAIN
IT WAS QUITE A SURPRISING RESULT
×3
AH! SO YOU NOTICED?


I KNOW IT'S NOT JUST MOM. A LOT OF PEOPLE MIGHT TREAT YOU LIKE AN ODDITY SINCE YOU'RE MUTE BUT...
MOM STILL THINKS OF YOU NOTHING MORE THAN A WEIRD DOLL

NAYUTA, YOU'RE LIKE MY GUARDIAN ANGEL!
THAT DOESN'T MATTER SINCE YOU AND I CAN UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE!


ALRIGHT.
I'M GONNA GO OUT FOR A LITTLE WHILE
COOL BOOK

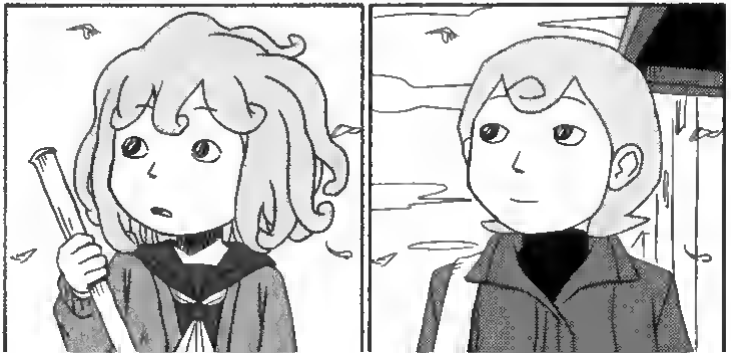
NAYUTA

A LOT OF LAUNDRY TO DO TODAY
HA HA HA
HA HA HA
MUMBLE MUMBLE
NAYUTA

THEN I'LL BE GOING
YUYUYA
THANK YOU SIR.
AFTER ALL YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR SO LONG
ALRIGHT SINCE WE DON'T HAVE ANY URGENT BUSINESS TAKE AS LONG AS YOU WANT
IT'S SYRUP THEY GO SURPRISINGLY WELL TOGETHER.
YOU SHOULD REALLY TRY SOME
MUNCH MUNCH
WHAT ARE YOU EATING IT WITH?
I ROASTED SOME SWEET POTATOES FOR YOU
HE'S A RATHER SPECIAL CASE SO I'M IN CHARGE OF DEALING WITH HIM
A MASCOT I KNEW FROM WAY BACK WHEN PERSONALLY REQUESTED FOR ME WHEN ASKING FOR OUR COMPANY'S SERVICES
OH, IT'S JUST FOR WORK
WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO MS SARASHINA?

NO, NO.
IT'S JUST WORK. NOTHING MORE
WHO, ME?
YOU SEEM UNEXPECTEDLY HAPPY, AS IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT QUITE TELLING US...
WHAT! I WANNA GO TOO!
MAYBE YOU'RE SECRETLY GOING TO A SPECIAL RESTAURANT OR SOMETHING...

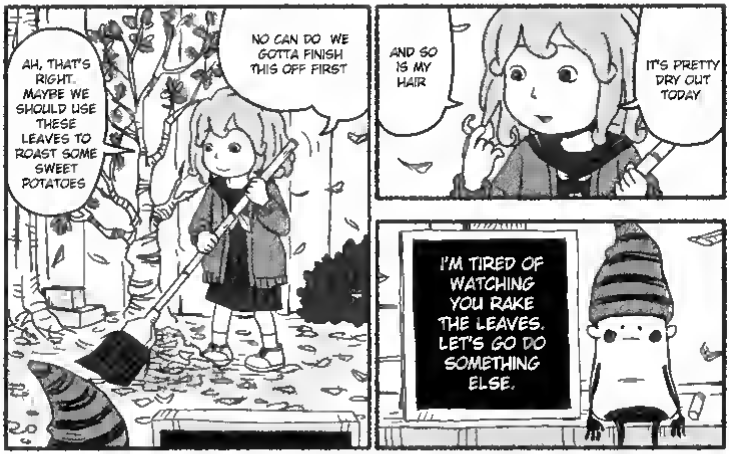
ハローキッズ
59号店
いらっしゃいませ!



古い居候の世界

〈前編〉

6

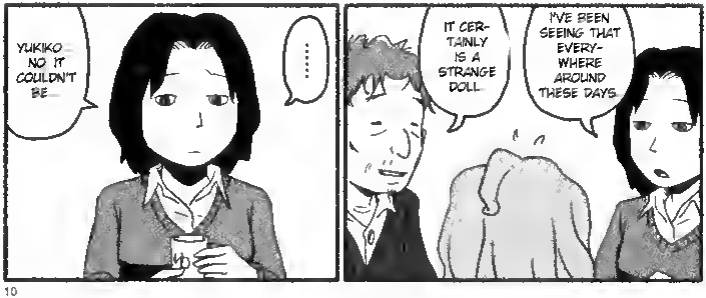

AH, THAT'S RIGHT. MAYBE WE SHOULD USE THESE LEAVES TO ROAST SOME SWEET POTATOES
NO CAN DO WE GOTTA FINISH THIS OFF FIRST
AND SO IS MY HAIR
IT'S PRETTY DRY OUT TODAY
I'M TIRED OF WATCHING YOU RAKE THE LEAVES. LET'S GO DO SOMETHING ELSE.

I HAVE TO GO PICK UP THE MEDICINE!
I FOR-GOT!
WHAT IS IT, NOW?

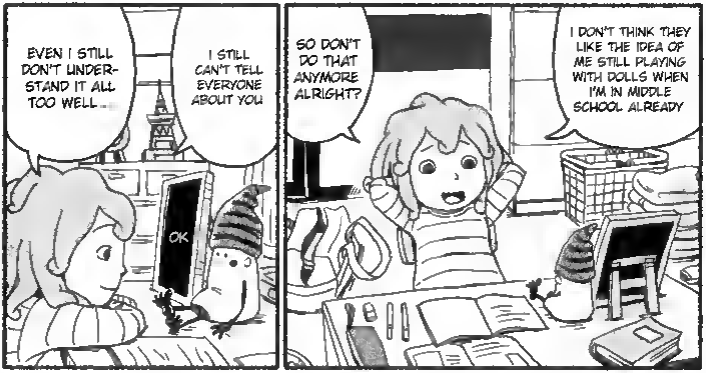
WHAT ARE ROASTED POTATOES?
I'LL BE BACK SOON!
JUST WAIT RIGHT THERE!
SARA-SHINA

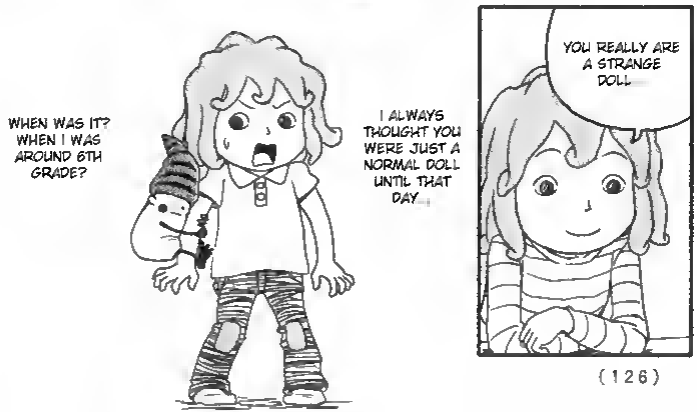
YOU'RE BACK HOME LATE
AH, YUKIKO...
I'M HOME
SARA-SHIMA
WHAT?
MEDICINE? IT'S RIGHT OVER HERE...
WHAT, IT'S GONE!!!
I'M SORRY, I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT THE MEDICINE
GUESS I SHOULD TAKE SOME RIGHT NOW

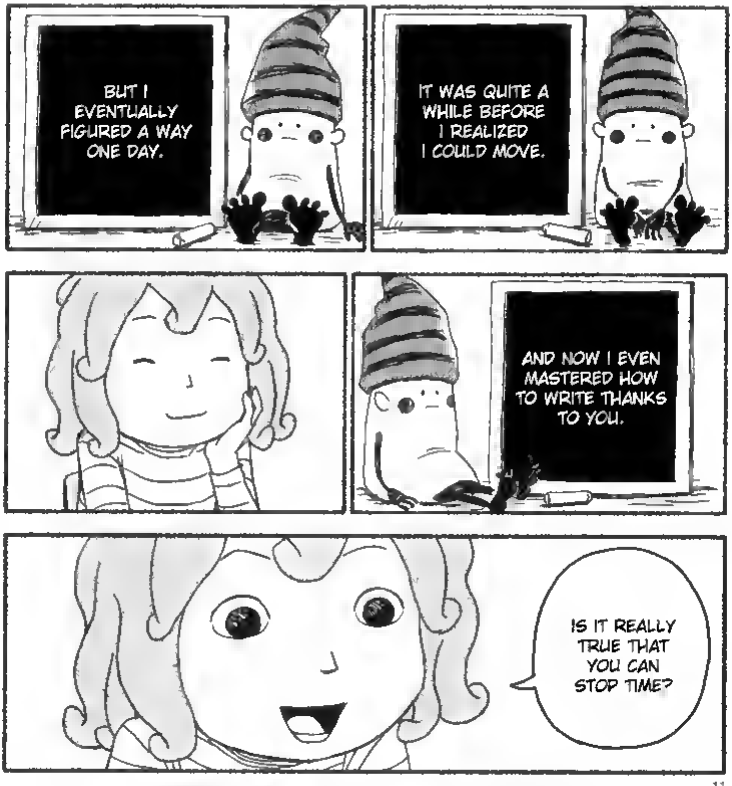
I'LL MAKE THE MISO SOUP
BUT LOOK AT ALL THE VEGETABLES I GOT. WE SHOULD HAVE DINNER RIGHT AWAY WITH IT.
SORRY FOR BEING A LITTLE LATE BUT I HAD TO WORK OVERTIME...
I'M HOME!
WELCOME BACK.
THE FOOD'S A LITTLE TOO OILY FOR ME TO HANDLE. BUT I'M FINE WITH YUKIKO'S MISO SOUP.
DEAR, YOU'RE HARDLY EATING AT ALL
IT'S NICE TO EAT A LITTLE LAVISHLY SOMETIMES
WOW, JUST LOOK AT ALL THE FOOD!
DON'T BRING DOLLS TO THE TABLE
WHEN DID HE...!?
AH!
YUKIKO, YOU STILL REALLY LOVE DOLLS, DON'T YOU?
HUH?
YOU KNOW, MY BODY FEELS BETTER THAN USUAL TODAY
.....

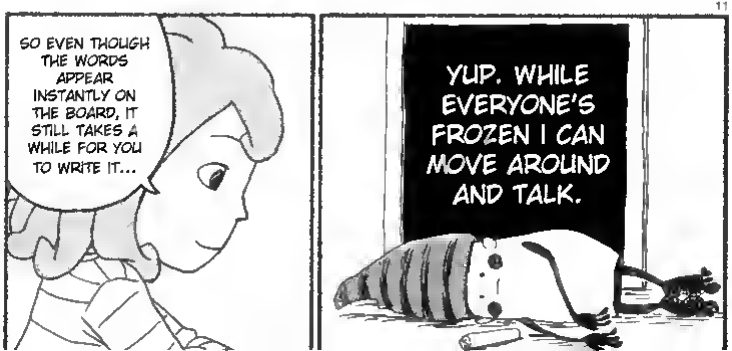

YUKIKO... NO IT COULDN'T BE...
.....
IT CERTAINLY IS A STRANGE DOLL.
I'VE BEEN SEEING THAT EVERYWHERE AROUND THESE DAYS.

10


EVEN I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND IT ALL TOO WELL...
I STILL CAN'T TELL EVERYONE ABOUT YOU
OK
SO DON'T DO THAT ANYMORE ALRIGHT?
I DON'T THINK THEY LIKE THE IDEA OF ME STILL PLAYING WITH DOLLS WHEN I'M IN MIDDLE SCHOOL ALREADY


WHEN WAS IT? WHEN I WAS AROUND 6TH GRADE?
I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A NORMAL DOLL UNTIL THAT DAY...
YOU REALLY ARE A STRANGE DOLL...


BUT I EVENTUALLY FIGURED A WAY ONE DAY.
IT WAS QUITE A WHILE BEFORE I REALIZED I COULD MOVE.
AND NOW I EVEN MASTERED HOW TO WRITE THANKS TO YOU.
IS IT REALLY TRUE THAT YOU CAN STOP TIME?


SO EVEN THOUGH THE WORDS APPEAR INSTANTLY ON THE BOARD, IT STILL TAKES A WHILE FOR YOU TO WRITE IT...
YUP. WHILE EVERYONE'S FROZEN I CAN MOVE AROUND AND TALK.

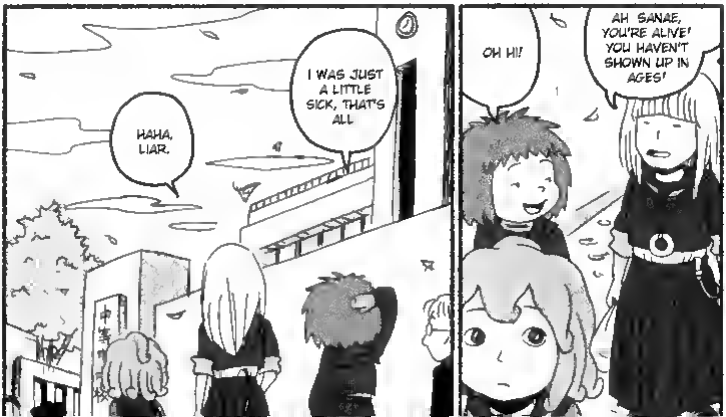
OH COME ON LET ME TOUCH YOU...
AMAZING... I WONDER WHAT THE WORLD IS LIKE WHEN TIME IS STOPPED...
AHH!
ガーン
GOT 'CHA!
12
YOU'RE SO COOL.
I WANT TO LEARN ABOUT YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN

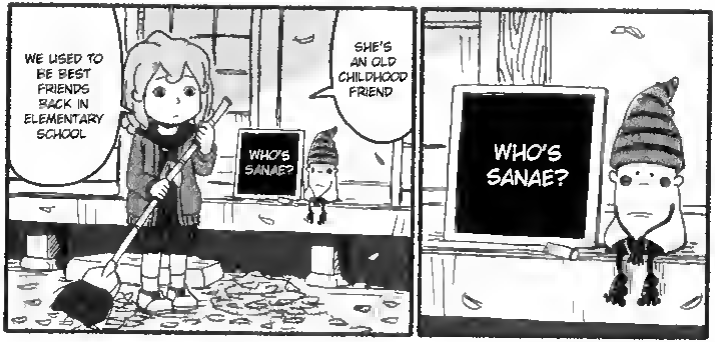
DID YOU FOLD THE LAUNDRY?
YUP.
UMM... HOME-WORK.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING? YOU'LL WAKE YOUR DAD UP.
AH THAT'S RIGHT I MET WITH SANAE'S MOTHER.
IT'S GOOD THAT YOU'RE HELPING OUT WITH THE CHORES BUT YOU SHOULDN'T STOP MIDWAY.
IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU PUT THEM AWAY TOO AFTER FOLDING THEM.
13
SANAE... ALRIGHT.
YOU HAVEN'T HUNG OUT TOGETHER MUCH THESE DAYS
ME?
SHE SAID SHE WANTED YOU TO WALK TO SCHOOL WITH SANAE SOMETIMES IF IT'S ALRIGHT WITH YOU.

WHAT'S WRONG?
HEY, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR AWHILE, SANAE
NO IT'S NOTHING
YEAH
I SEE...
HE'S DOING FINE SINCE HE'S TAKING HIS MEDICINE REGULARLY
HOW'S YOUR DAD DOING?

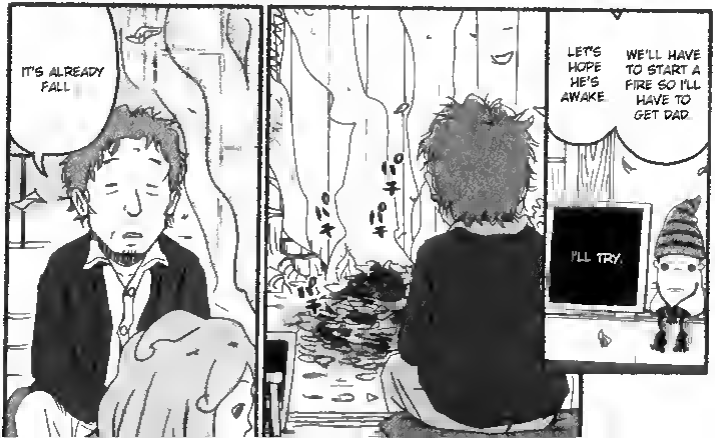
14

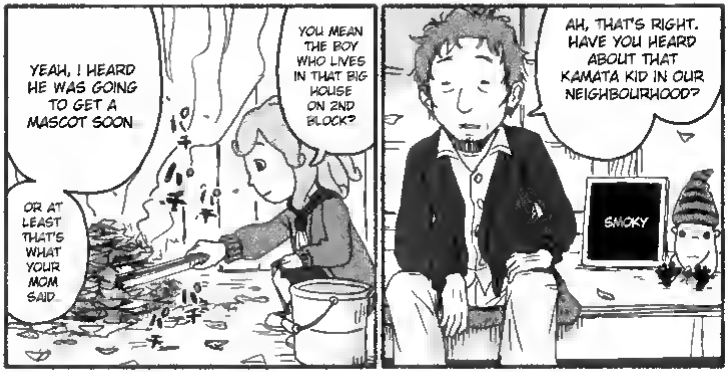
N-NEVER MIND...
DOLLS?
DO YOU HAPPPEN TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN DOLLS?
HEY, SANAE...
WHAT'S WITH THE LECTURE, YUKIKO?
YOUR MOM IS WORRYING ABOUT YOU
IT'S NOT VERY GOOD
SANAE, YOU SHOULD STOP SKIPPING SCHOOL SO MUCH,
WELL, WHATEVER.

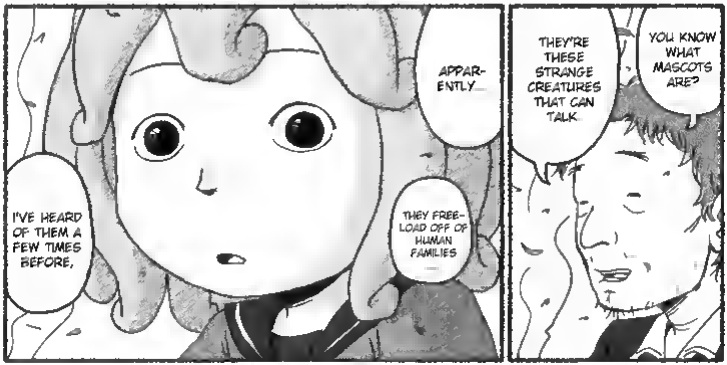

I WAS JUST A LITTLE SICK, THAT'S ALL
HAHA, LIAR.
OH HI!
AH SANAE, YOU'RE ALIVE! YOU HAVEN'T SHOWN UP IN AGES!


WE USED TO BE BEST FRIENDS BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SHE'S AN OLD CHILDHOOD FRIEND
WHO'S SANAE?
WHO'S SANAE?

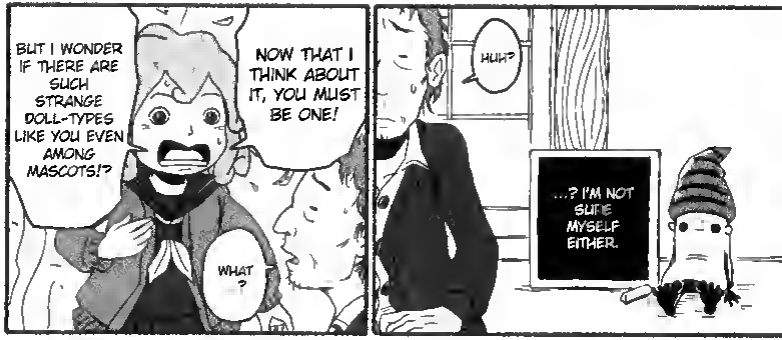
YOU WANNA TRY SOME? CAN YOU EVEN EAT POTATOES IN THE FIRST PLACE?
OH RIGHT, I SAID I WOULD ROAST SOME BEFORE
OH YEAH, WHAT'RE ROASTED SWEET POTATOES ANYWAYS? IT'S BEEN ON MY MIND A LOT.
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TALK TO HER AT ALL THESE DAYS...

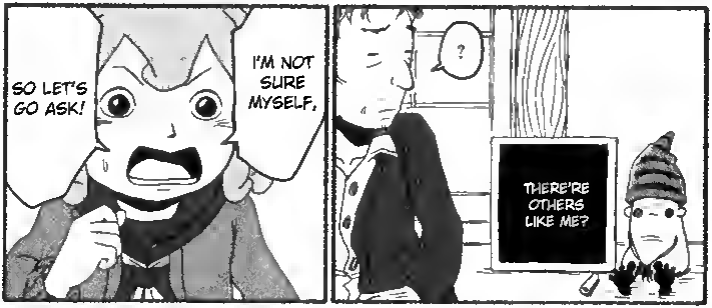

IT'S ALREADY FALL
LET'S HOPE HE'S AWAKE
WE'LL HAVE TO START A FIRE SO I'LL HAVE TO GET DAD
I'LL TRY.


YEAH, I HEARD HE WAS GOING TO GET A MASCOT SOON...
OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT YOUR MOM SAID...
YOU MEAN THE BOY WHO LIVES IN THAT BIG HOUSE ON 2ND BLOCK?
AH, THAT'S RIGHT. HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THAT KAMATA KID IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?
SMOKY


I'VE HEARD OF THEM A FEW TIMES BEFORE.
APPAR-ENTLY...
THEY FREE-LOAD OFF OF HUMAN FAMILIES...
THEY'RE THESE STRANGE CREATURES THAT CAN TALK.
YOU KNOW WHAT MASCOTS ARE?

NAYUTA,
ARE YOU A MASCOT!?
BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE MYSELF. HOW ABOUT WE GO SEE IT TOGETHER SOMETIME?
COULD IT BE
AH...

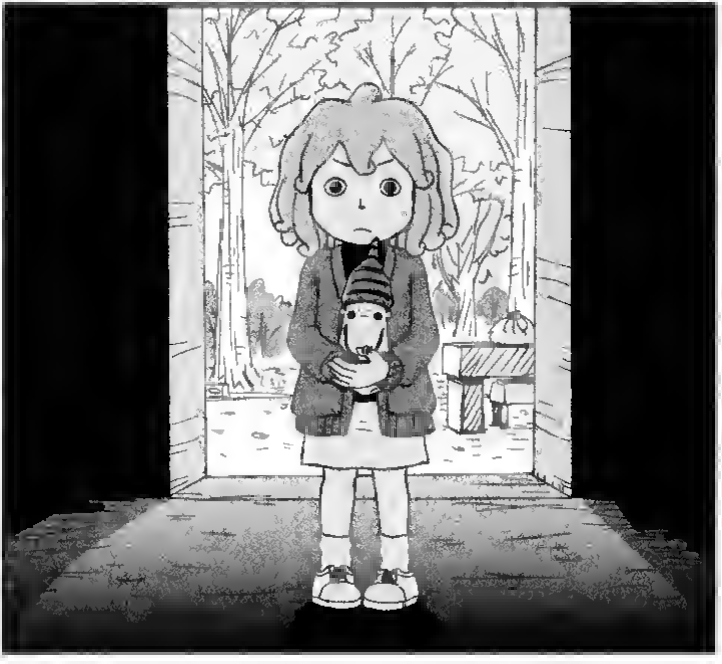

BUT I WONDER IF THERE ARE SUCH STRANGE DOLL-TYPES LIKE YOU EVEN AMONG MASCOTS!?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, YOU MUST BE ONE!
WHAT...?
HUH?
...? I'M NOT SURE MYSELF EITHER.


SO LET'S GO ASK!
I'M NOT SURE MYSELF.
?
THERE'RE OTHERS LIKE ME?

HEY...
I'M GOING OUT FOR AWHILE!
I WANT TO GO SEE HIM.

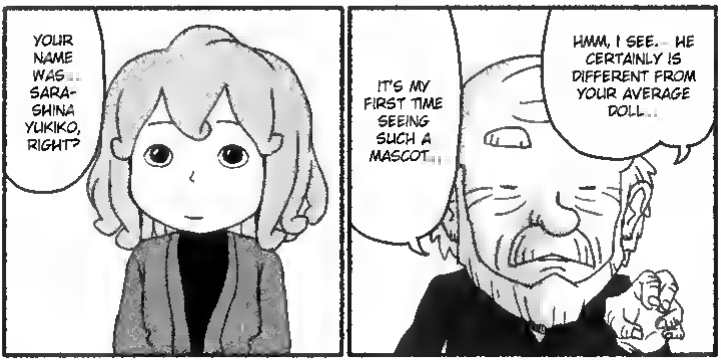
WHAT DO I DO WITH THESE? I DON'T EVEN LIKE SWEET POTATOES...
TEENAGERS SURE ARE DIFFICULT...
I WANT TO GO SEE HIM.

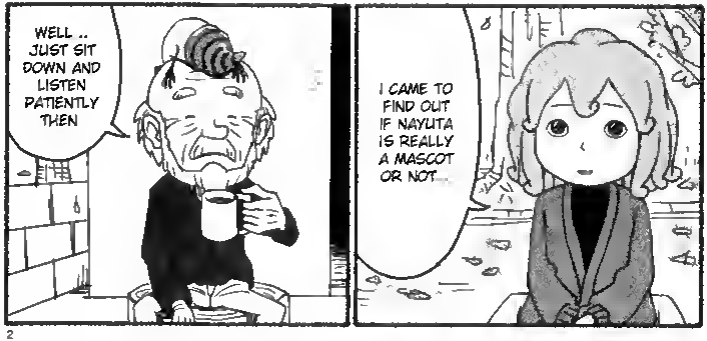
19



HE TOLD ME ABOUT THIS PLACE.
UMM... KAMATA'S MASCOT ISN'T SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE UNTIL NEXT WEEK BUT...
WHY YES, I DID INDEED INTRODUCE KAMATA TO HIS MASCOT
I CAME TODAY TO YOU BECAUSE I WANTED TO LEARN ABOUT MASCOTS.
HE SAID YOU INTRODUCED HIM TO A MASCOT
SO WHAT EXACTLY ABOUT MASCOTS DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

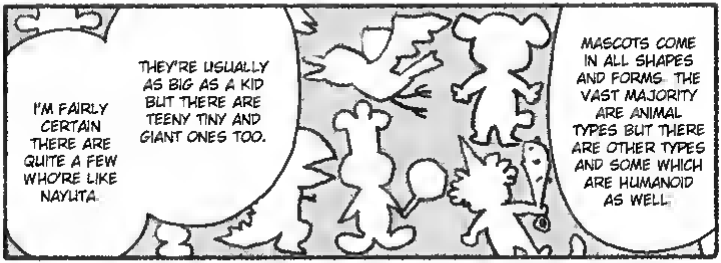
THE ANCIENT WORLD OF MASCOTS <PART 2>

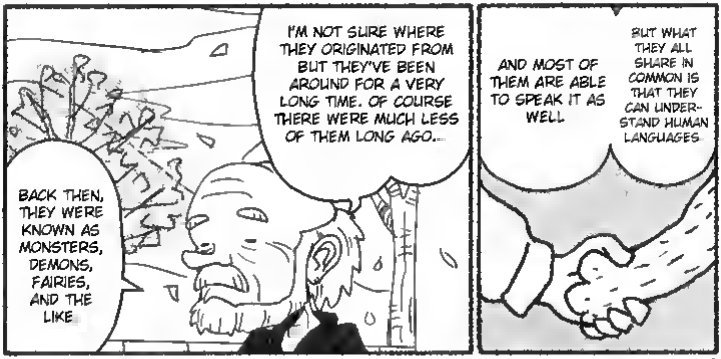

YOUR NAME WAS... SARA-SHINA YUKIKO, RIGHT?
IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING SUCH A MASCOT...
HMM, I SEE... HE CERTAINLY IS DIFFERENT FROM YOUR AVERAGE DOLL...


WELL .. JUST SIT DOWN AND LISTEN PATIENTLY THEN
I CAME TO FIND OUT IF NAYUTA IS REALLY A MASCOT OR NOT...

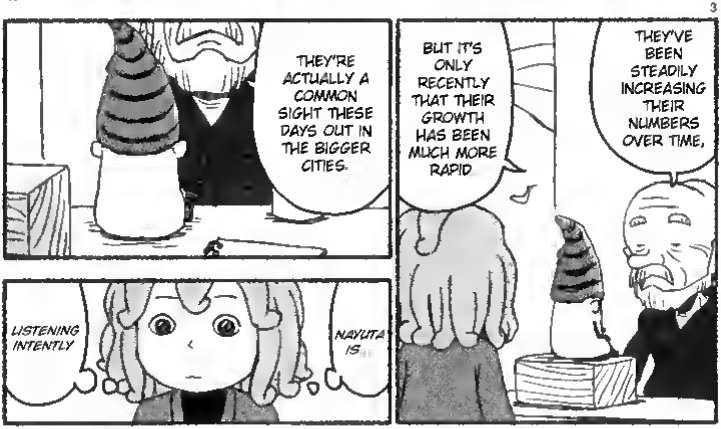
古い居候の世界
〈中編〉

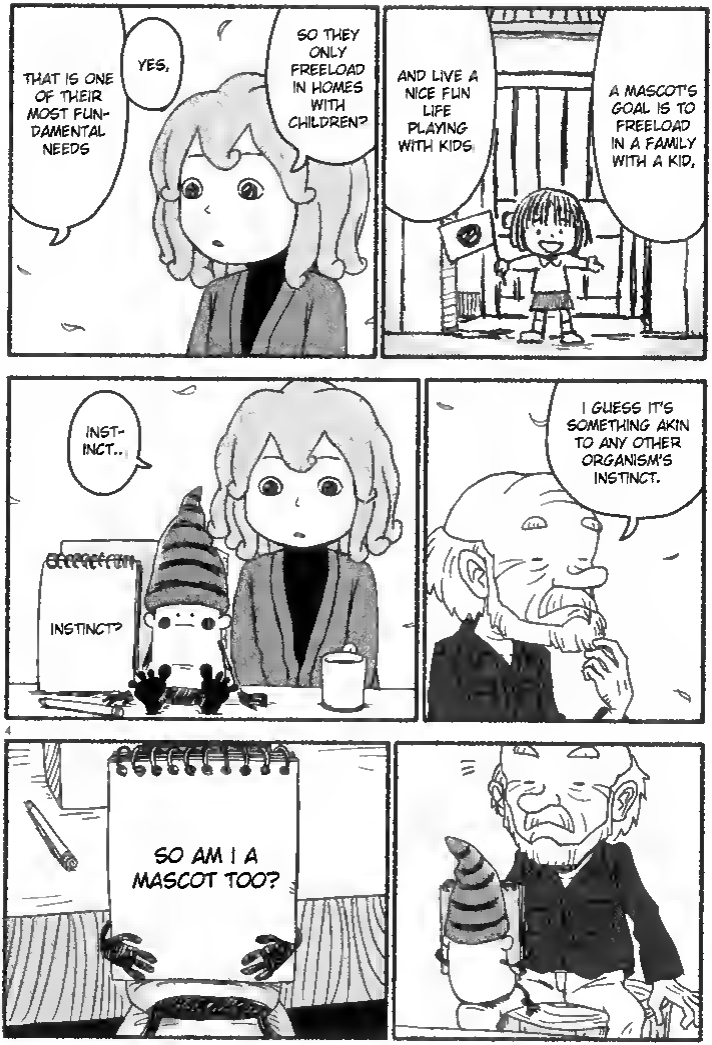
LET ME TELL YOU ALL I KNOW ABOUT MASCOTS AFTER BEING WITH THEM FOR SO LONG ALL MY LIFE
IT'D BE BEST IF I START TALKING FROM THE BASICS

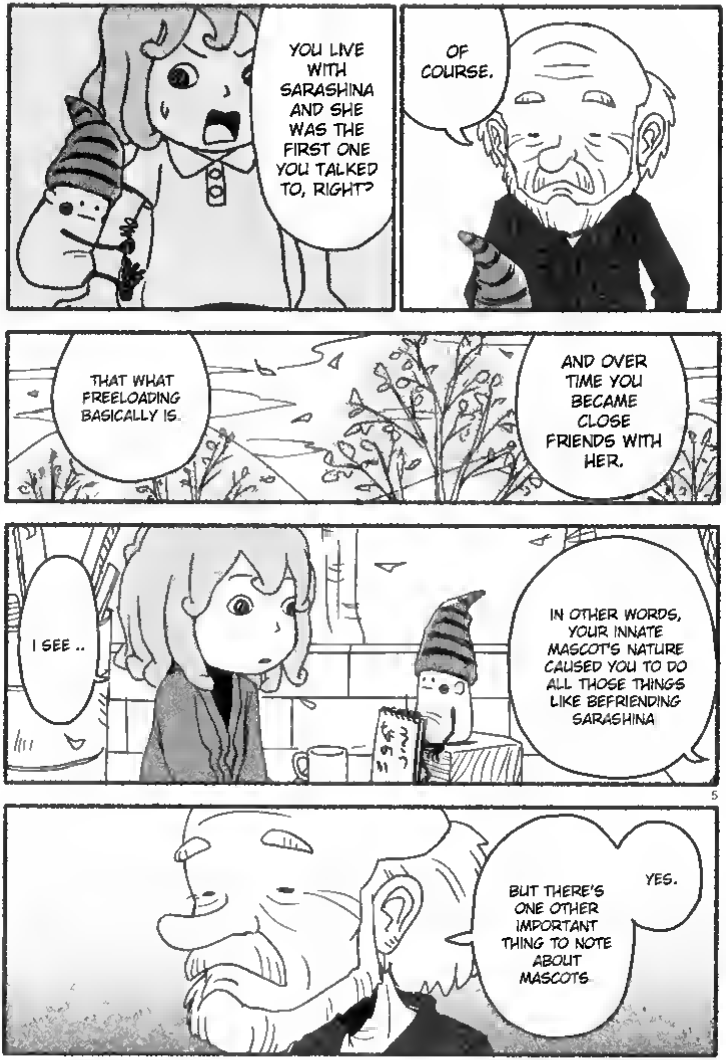

I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN THERE ARE QUITE A FEW WHO'RE LIKE NAYUTA.
THEY'RE USUALLY AS BIG AS A KID BUT THERE ARE TEENY TINY AND GIANT ONES TOO.
MASCOTS COME IN ALL SHAPES AND FORMS. THE VAST MAJORITY ARE ANIMAL TYPES BUT THERE ARE OTHER TYPES AND SOME WHICH ARE HUMANOID AS WELL.

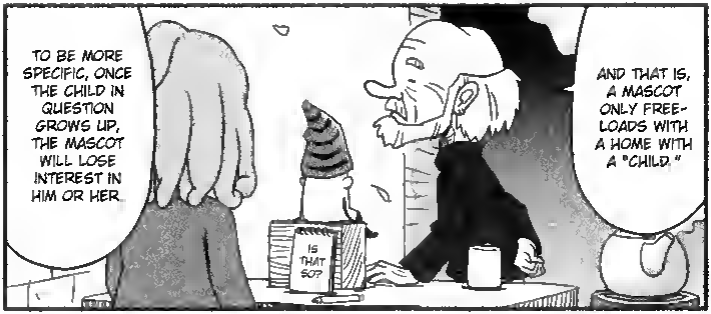

BACK THEN, THEY WERE KNOWN AS MONSTERS, DEMONS, FAIRIES, AND THE LIKE.
I'M NOT SURE WHERE THEY ORIGINATED FROM BUT THEY'VE BEEN AROUND FOR A VERY LONG TIME. OF COURSE THERE WERE MUCH LESS OF THEM LONG AGO...
AND MOST OF THEM ARE ABLE TO SPEAK IT AS WELL
BUT WHAT THEY ALL SHARE IN COMMON IS THAT THEY CAN UNDERSTAND HUMAN LANGUAGES.

3


THEY'RE ACTUALLY A COMMON SIGHT THESE DAYS OUT IN THE BIGGER CITIES.
BUT IT'S ONLY RECENTLY THAT THEIR GROWTH HAS BEEN MUCH MORE RAPID
THEY'VE BEEN STEADILY INCREASING THEIR NUMBERS OVER TIME,
LISTENING INTENTLY
NAYUTA IS...

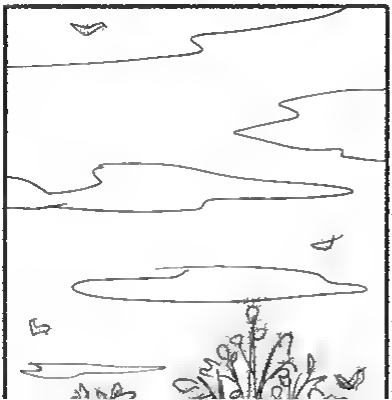

THAT IS ONE OF THEIR MOST FUNDAMENTAL NEEDS
YES,
SO THEY ONLY FREELOAD IN HOMES WITH CHILDREN?
AND LIVE A NICE FUN LIFE PLAYING WITH KIDS.
A MASCOT'S GOAL IS TO FREELOAD IN A FAMILY WITH A KID,
INST-INCT..
INSTINCT?
I GUESS IT'S SOMETHING AKIN TO ANY OTHER ORGANISM'S INSTINCT.
4
SO AM I A MASCOT TOO?

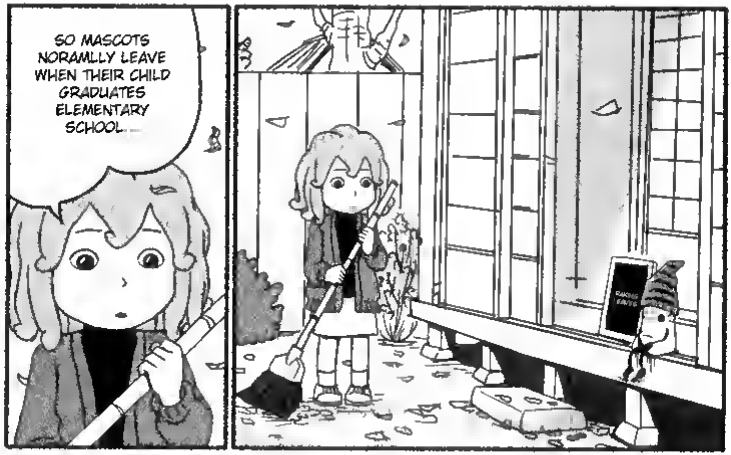

YOU LIVE WITH SARASHINA AND SHE WAS THE FIRST ONE YOU TALKED TO, RIGHT?
OF COURSE.
THAT WHAT FREELOADING BASICALLY IS.
AND OVER TIME YOU BECAME CLOSE FRIENDS WITH HER.
I SEE ..
IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR INNATE MASCOT'S NATURE CAUSED YOU TO DO ALL THOSE THINGS LIKE BEFRIENDING SARASHINA
5
YES.
BUT THERE'S ONE OTHER IMPORTANT THING TO NOTE ABOUT MASCOTS

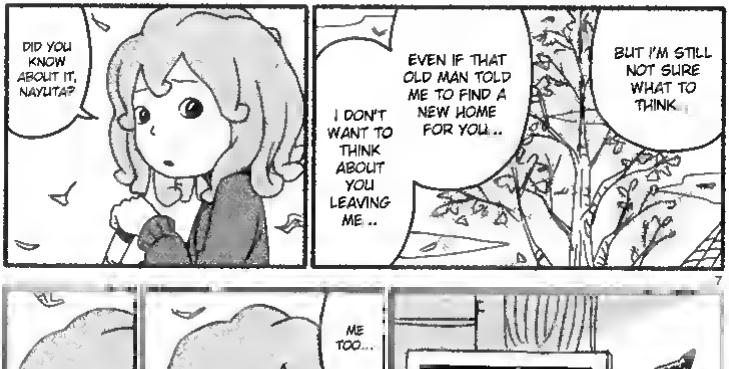

TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, ONCE THE CHILD IN QUESTION GROWS UP, THE MASCOT WILL LOSE INTEREST IN HIM OR HER.
IS THAT SO?
AND THAT IS, A MASCOT ONLY FREELOADS WITH A HOME WITH A "CHILD."

YES

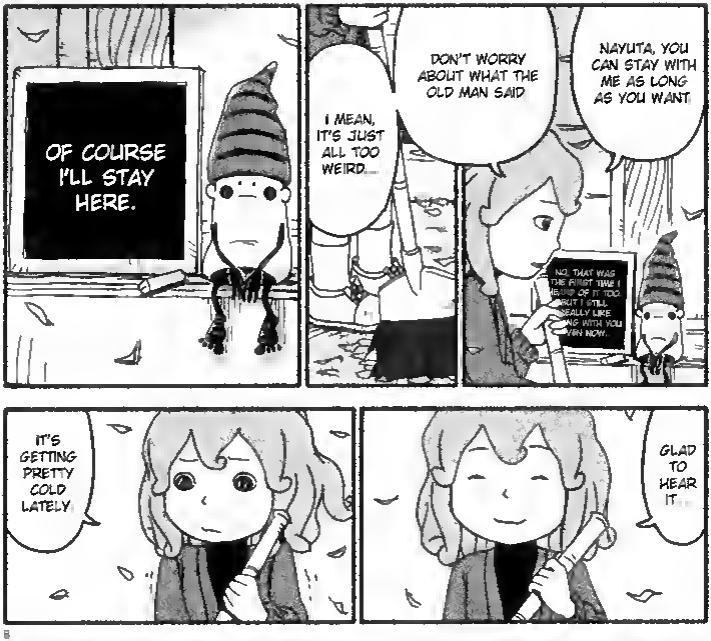
YOU'RE ALREADY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, AREN'T YOU?
YUKIKO,



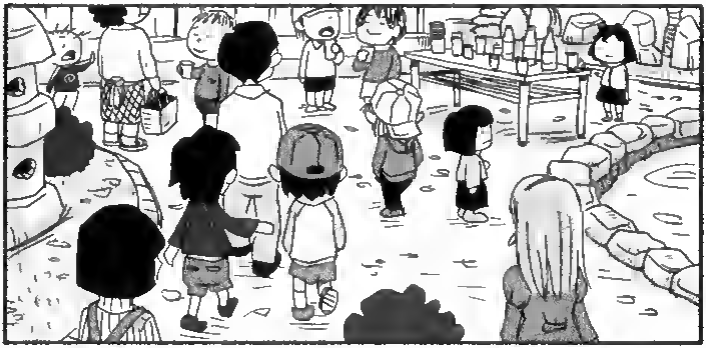

SO MASCOTS NORAMLLY LEAVE WHEN THEIR CHILD GRADUATES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...

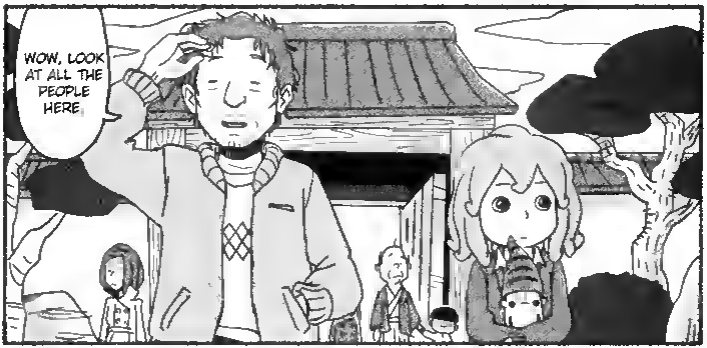

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, NAYUTA?
I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT YOU LEAVING ME..
EVEN IF THAT OLD MAN TOLD ME TO FIND A NEW HOME FOR YOU..
BUT I'M STILL NOT SURE WHAT TO THINK...

ME TOO...
NO, THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I HEARD OF IT TOO. BUT I STILL REALLY LIKE PLAYING WITH YOU EVEN NOW.

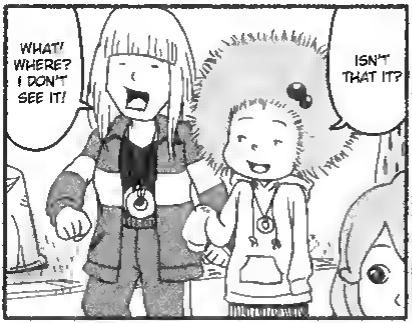

OF COURSE I'LL STAY HERE.
I MEAN, IT'S JUST ALL TOO WEIRD...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT THE OLD MAN SAID
NAYUTA, YOU CAN STAY WITH ME AS LONG AS YOU WANT
NO, THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I THOUGHT OF IT TOO. BUT I STILL REALLY LIKE BEING WITH YOU EVEN NOW.
IT'S GETTING PRETTY COLD LATELY.
GLAD TO HEAR IT.

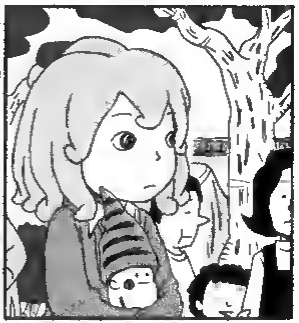
SO WHY DON'T WE GO SEE HOW A MASCOT LOOKS LIKE TOGETHER?
AS I SAID BEFORE, THE KAMATA FAMILY'S SON IS GETTING HIS MASCOT TOMORROW.
YUKIKO, ARE YOU LISTENING!?
HUH?
THIS'LL BE MY FIRST TIME SEEING ONE. I'M GETTING A LITTLE EXCITED.
I WONDER IF IT'LL TALK?
WHAT DO YOU THINK IT'LL LOOK LIKE? I'M THINKING IT'LL BE LIKE A CAT
OH RIGHT...
SORRY, I HAVE WORK...
DEAR, WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH US TOO? TOMORROW'S SUNDAY, RIGHT?

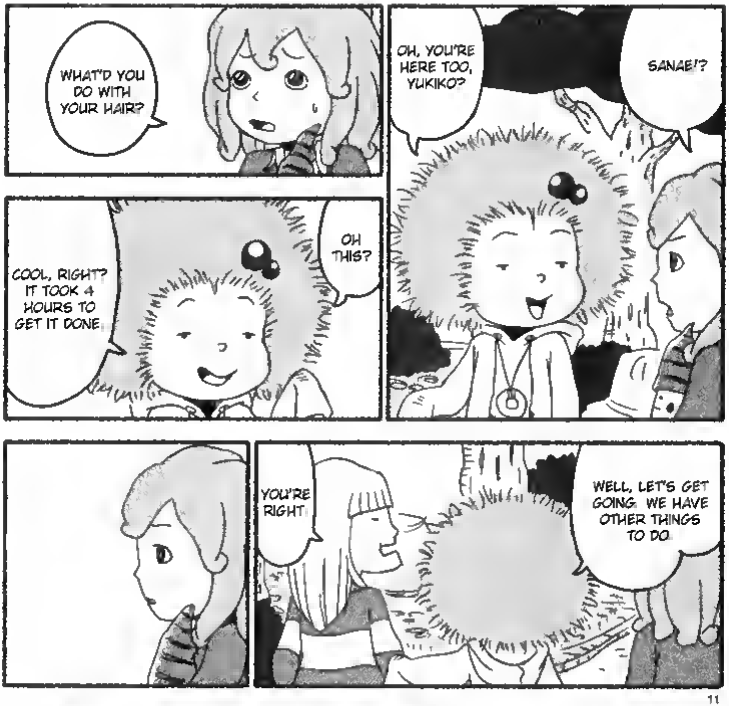


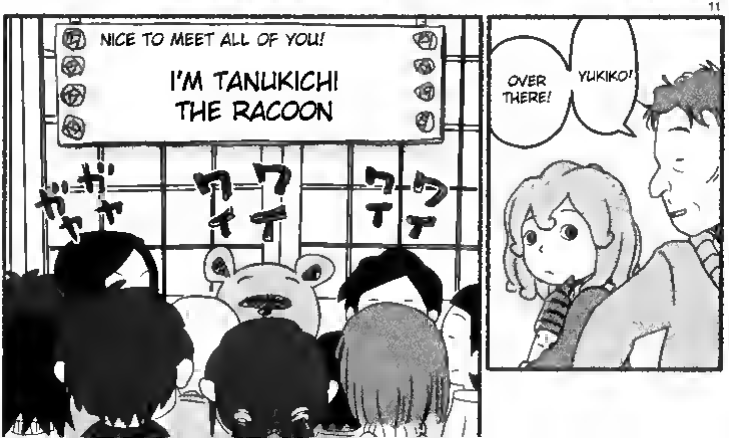

WOW, LOOK AT ALL THE PEOPLE HERE.

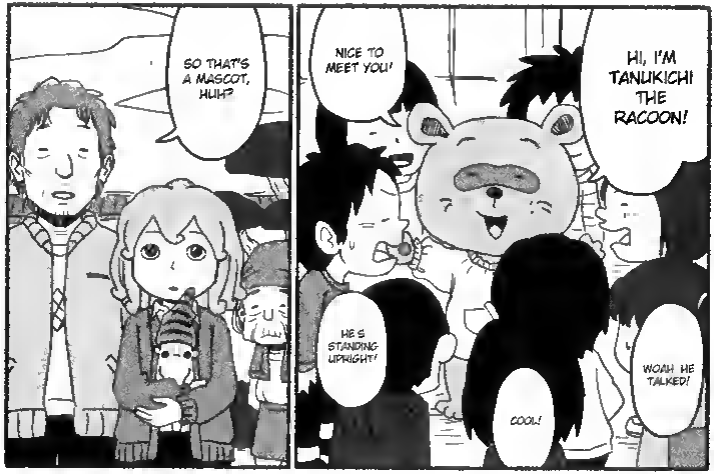
10


WHAT! WHERE? I DON'T SEE IT!
ISN'T THAT IT?

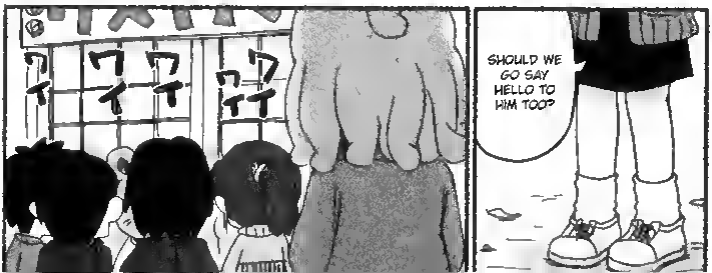



WHAT'D YOU DO WITH YOUR HAIR?
OH, YOU'RE HERE TOO, YUKIKO?
SANAE!?
OH THIS?
COOL, RIGHT? IT TOOK 4 HOURS TO GET IT DONE.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WELL, LET'S GET GOING. WE HAVE OTHER THINGS TO DO.

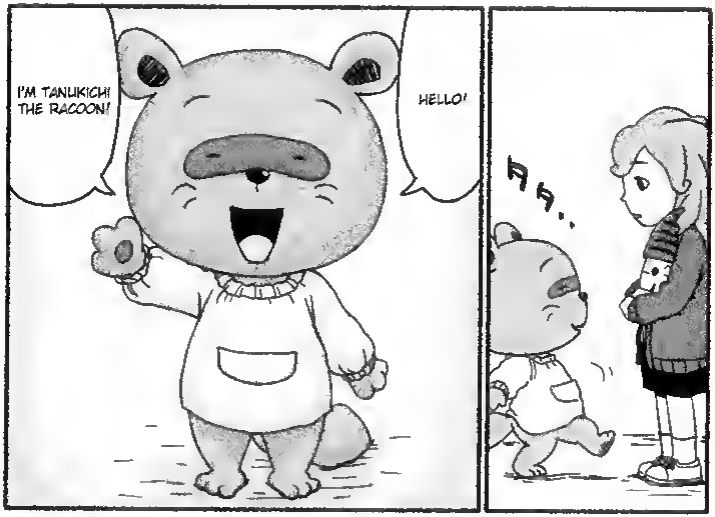

NICE TO MEET ALL OF YOU!
I'M TANUKICHI THE RACOON
ガヤ ワイワイ ワイワイ
YUKIKO!
OVER THERE!

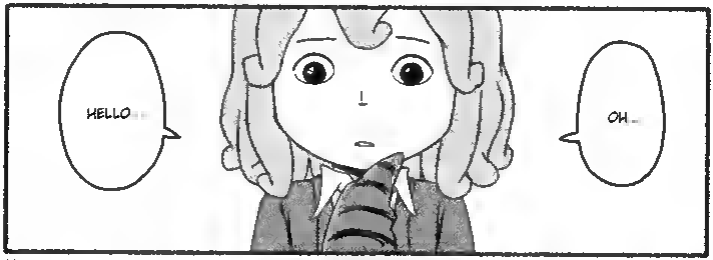

SO THAT'S A MASCOT, HUH?
NICE TO MEET YOU!
HI, I'M TANUKICHI THE RACOON!
HE'S STANDING UPRIGHT!
WOAH HE TALKED!
COOL!

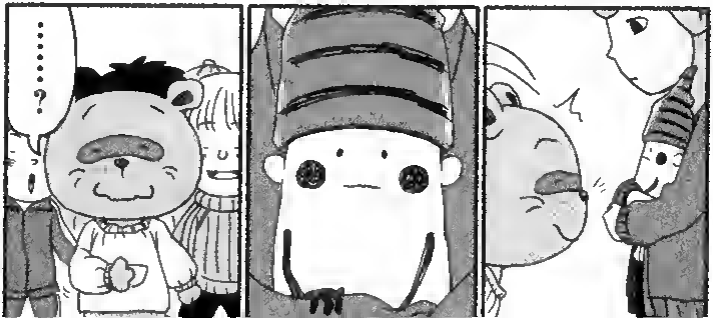
NAYUTA?
I'M GOING TO GO TALK TO HIM


ワイワイワイ
SHOULD WE GO SAY HELLO TO HIM TOO?

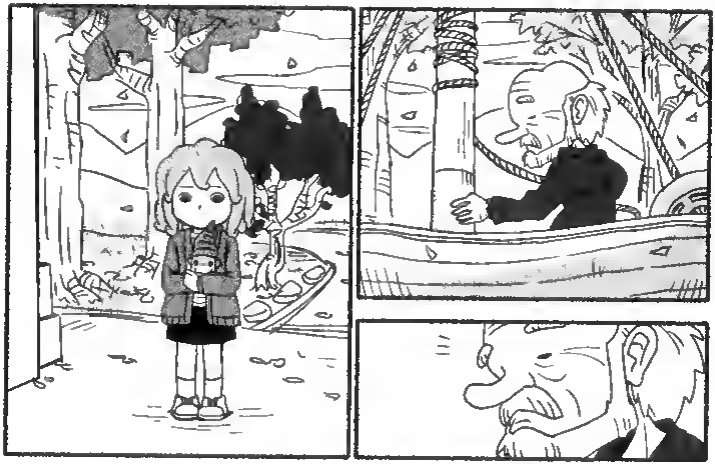
I EVEN EAT THE SAME FOOD THAT ALL OF YOU EAT!
I WON'T BITE YOU KNOW.
NO NEED TO BE SCARED OF ME.
LET'S BE FRIENDS!
SHAKE HANDS WITH ME TOO!
THAT IS ONE OF THEIR BASIC NEEDS.
WHAT AN AGE WE LIVE IN...
A MASCOT ONLY FREELOADS IN A FAMILY WITH A CHILD.
THIS IS TAKESHI, THE KID I LIVE WITH!
TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, ONCE THE CHILD IN QUESTION GROWS UP, THE MASCOT WILL LOSE INTEREST IN HIM OR HER.
HI, I'M TANU-KICHI!
HELLO
IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR INNATE MASCOT'S NATURE CAUSED YOU TO DO ALL THOSE THINGS LIKE BEFRIENDING SARASHINA.

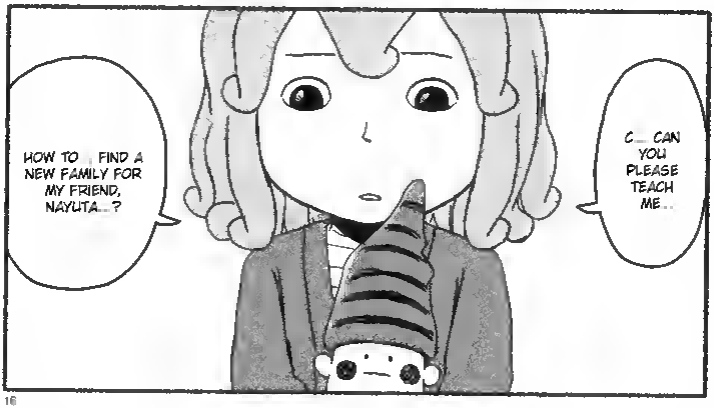

I'M TANUKICHI THE RACOON!
HELLO!
ㅁㅁ..


HELLO..
OH..


.....?

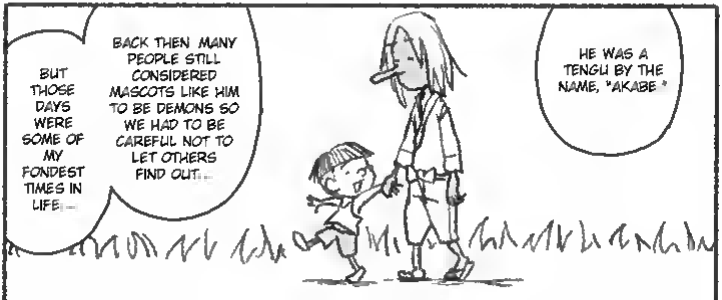
NICE TO MEET YOU ALL!
HELLO, KIDS!
15

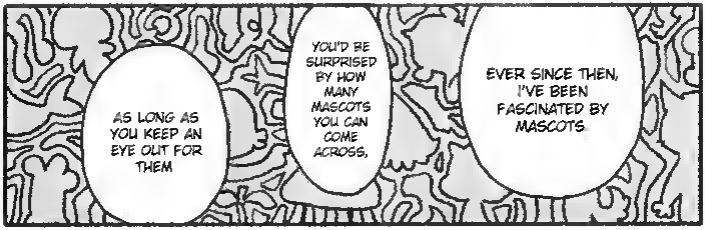



C... CAN YOU PLEASE TEACH ME...
HOW TO... FIND A NEW FAMILY FOR MY FRIEND, NAYUTA...?

I SEE...
SO YOU'VE DECIDED.

HE SAID HE'S STARTING TO FEEL A LITTLE DIFFERENT TOO...
NAYUTA SEEMS TO BE ALSO COMING TERMS WITH THE FACT THAT HE'S A MASCOT TOO...
I REALIZED THAT MASCOTS LIVE FOR THE SAKE OF CHILDREN...
WHEN I WENT TO KAMATA'S HOUSE,
I USED TO HAVE MASCOT TOO LONG AGO WHEN I WAS A YOUNG BOY
YOU KNOW...
AND SO WE DISCUSSED ABOUT WHAT TO DO AND WE'VE COME TO A DECISION TO FIND A NEW FAMILY. EVEN THOUGH NAYUTA'S STILL A LITTLE TROUBLED BY THIS IDEA, IT'S NOT LIKE I WON'T EVER BE ABLE TO SEE HIM AGAIN...

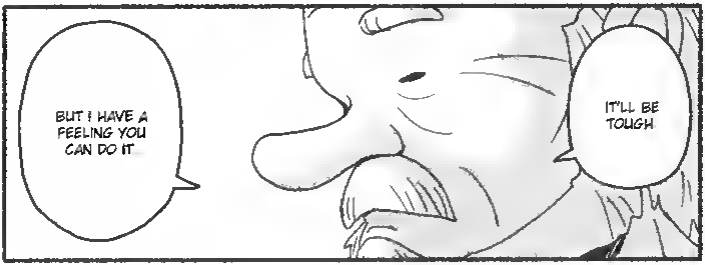

BUT THOSE DAYS WERE SOME OF MY FONDEST TIMES IN LIFE...
BACK THEN MANY PEOPLE STILL CONSIDERED MASCOTS LIKE HIM TO BE DEMONS SO WE HAD TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO LET OTHERS FIND OUT...
HE WAS A TENGU BY THE NAME, "AKABE."


EVER SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN FASCINATED BY MASCOTS
YOU'D BE SURPRISED BY HOW MANY MASCOTS YOU CAN COME ACROSS,
AS LONG AS YOU KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THEM

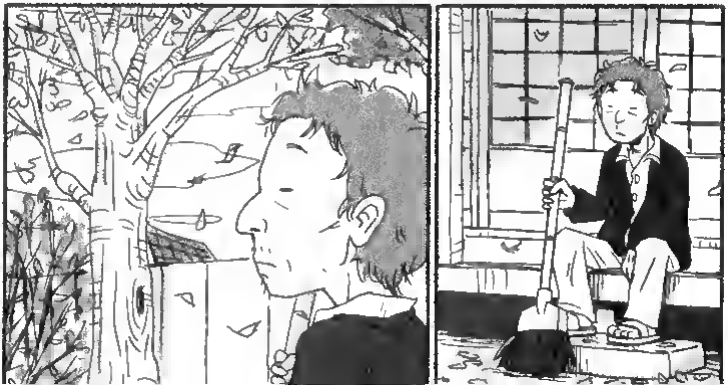
I'VE TALKED WITH THEM ABOUT THEIR TROUBLES OR WORRIES AND GIVEN THEM MY ADVICE AS A HUMAN
AFTER BEING WITH THEM FOR SO LONG, I'VE COME TO REALIZE SOMETHING. A LOT OF MASCOTS NEED HELP TO FIND A GOOD FAMILY TO FREELOAD OFF FROM

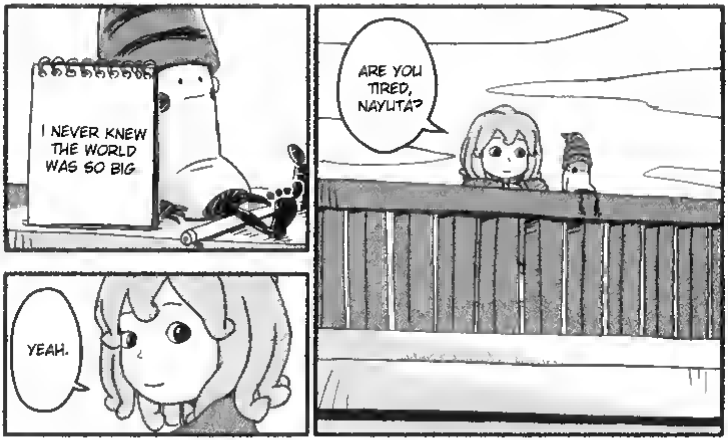
NAYUTA'S A VERY UNUSUAL MASCOT
FINDING A GOOD HOME FOR HIM WILL BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT THAN FOR NORMAL MASCOTS.

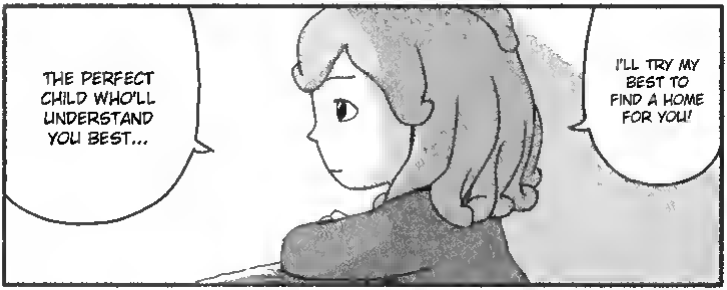
18

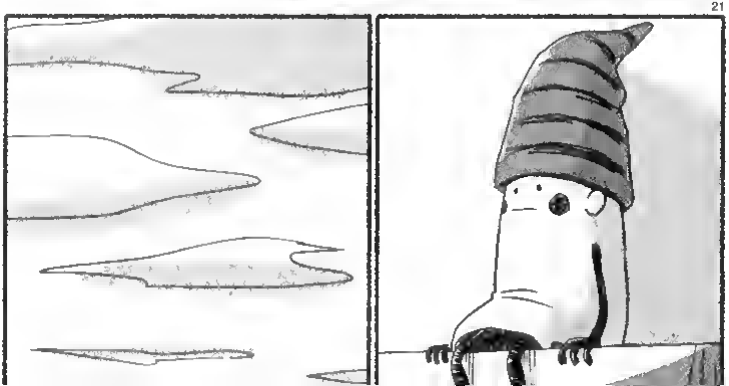

IT'LL BE TOUGH
BUT I HAVE A FEELING YOU CAN DO IT

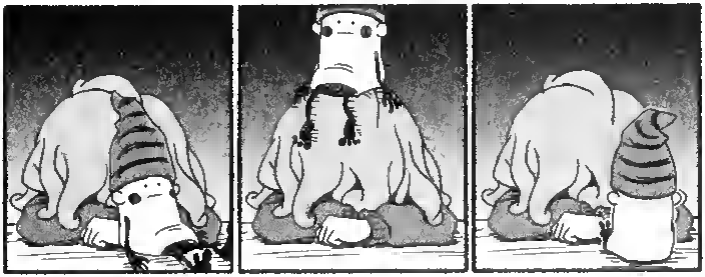
THE WONDERS OF THE PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN WORLD OF MASCOTS.
I'M SURE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SHOW MANY PEOPLE,




I NEVER KNEW THE WORLD WAS SO BIG
ARE YOU TIRED, NAYUTA?
YEAH.


THE PERFECT CHILD WHO'LL UNDERSTAND YOU BEST...
I'LL TRY MY BEST TO FIND A HOME FOR YOU!





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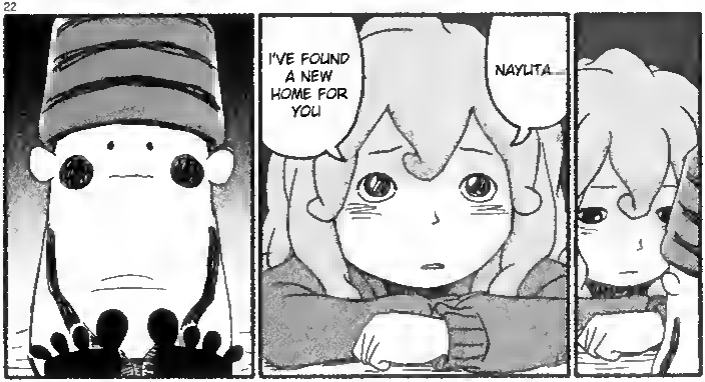
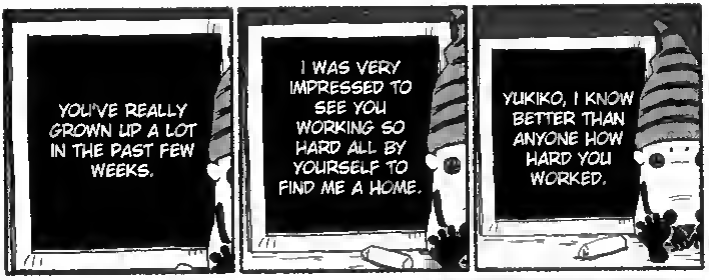


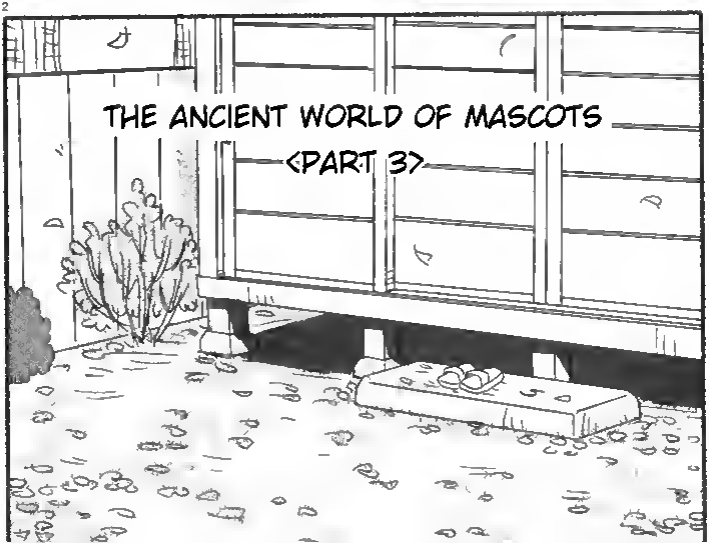
THE ANCIENT WORLD OF MASCOTS <PART 3>

REALLY?
I'VE FOUND A NEW HOME FOR YOU
NAYUTA.
ARE YOU HAPPY OR SAD?
AND IF YOU LIKE THEM, THAT'S THAT.
YUP. WE CAN GO SEE THEM TOMORROW
THEY'RE A GOOD FAMILY, I GURAN-TEE IT
I MEAN, I'VE FINALLY FOUND A GOOD HOME FOR YOU... WHY WOULDN'T I BE...
OF COURSE I'M HAPPY...
WHAT?


YOU'VE REALLY GROWN UP A LOT IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS.
I WAS VERY IMPRESSED TO SEE YOU WORKING SO HARD ALL BY YOURSELF TO FIND ME A HOME.
YUKIKO, I KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE HOW HARD YOU WORKED.

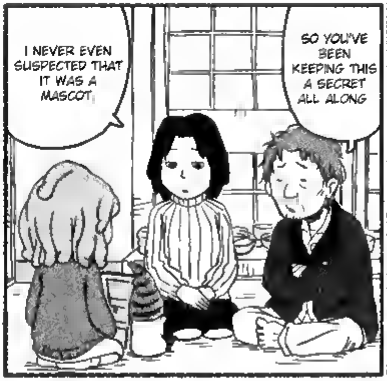
I'M ALSO BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT BEING A MASCOT IS ABOUT... THAT MASCOTS LIKE ME NEED TO BE AROUND CHILDREN...

2


THE ANCIENT WORLD OF MASCOTS
<PART 3>

I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO TEACH YOU
YOU DID WELL FINDING A HOME ALL BY YOURSELF.
I'M SURE IT'LL GO WELL
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR
WHERE'RE YOU HEADED TO, GRAMPS?
3
I'LL BE PACKING UP SOON.
I WANT TO TEST THIS BOAT OUT ON THE WATERS
AH, I'LL BE LEAVING FOR THE OCEAN SOON

IT MAY BE A SMALL BOAT, BUT IT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
I FINALLY FINISHED IT.
UM..
4
NO NEVER MIND..
PLEASE TAKE CARE
I..
UMM .. GRAMPS,

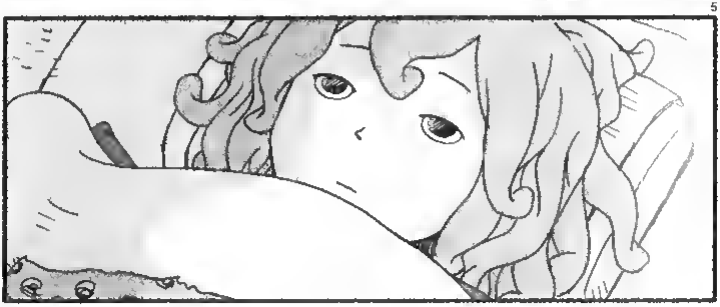

I NEVER EVEN SUSPECTED THAT IT WAS A MASCOT.
SO YOU'VE BEEN KEEPING THIS A SECRET ALL ALONG

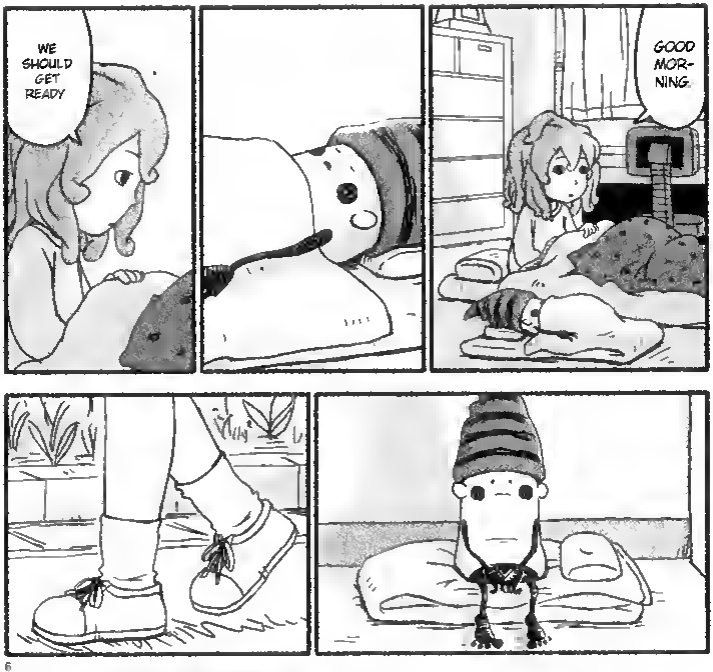
WHAT! THOSE WORDS JUST APPEARED!
SO HE'S A... MASCOT THAT CAN STOP TIME...?

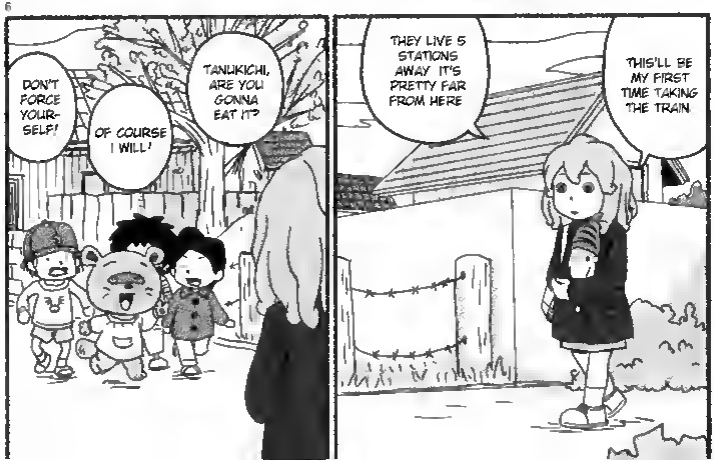
HE'S ON YOUR HEAD DEAR!
IT MAY NOT BE MUCH, BUT EAT AS MUCH YOU WANT, NAYUTA! AH, HE DISAPPEARED AGAIN!
SARA-SHINA

WILL HIS NEW HOME REALLY BE ALRIGHT?
YUP.
IT'S KIND OF A SHAME THAT HE'LL BE LEAVING AFTER FINALLY BEING ABLE TO SAY HELLO TO YOU
MY NAME IS NAYUTA

5




WE SHOULD GET READY
GOOD MOR-NING.


DON'T FORCE YOUR-SELF!
OF COURSE I WILL!
TANUKICHI, ARE YOU GONNA EAT IT?
THEY LIVE 5 STATIONS AWAY IT'S PRETTY FAR FROM HERE
THIS'LL BE MY FIRST TIME TAKING THE TRAIN

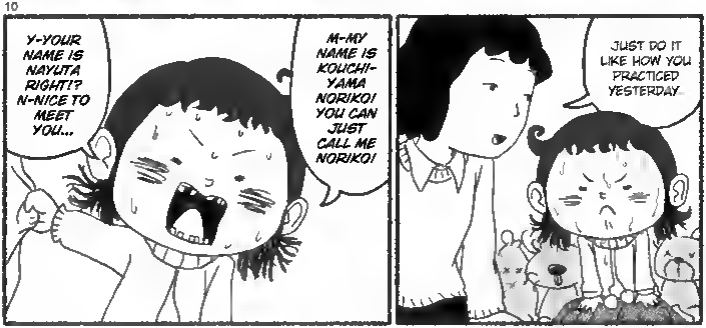
YOU BETTER NOT JUST THROW IT UP AGAIN
JUST WATCH!
7

WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK...
WHA...
SANAE...
WHAT, YOU GOT A PROBLEM!?
WELL YOU SURE DON'T LOOK TOO SPIRITED TODAY.
HELL NO!
DID YOU TELL HER ABOUT WHAT WE'RE DOING?
YOU'RE NOT CHICKEN-ING OUT, ARE YA!?
IT'S NOTHING. JUST SOME GIRL I KNOW.
WHO'S SHE?
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, MY MOM!?
SHUT UP!
S-SANAE, PLEASE DON'T
WHERE ARE YOU...

PLEASE, I'M BEGGING YOU! DON'T DO WHATEVER YOU'RE GOING TO DO...!
DON'T GO WITH THEM!
PLEASE DON'T!
NO...
I AIN'T A KID ANYMORE SO LEAVE ME ALONE!
LET GO!
LET'S GO ALREADY!
SANAE, HURRY UP!
OK!
いや
いや
いや

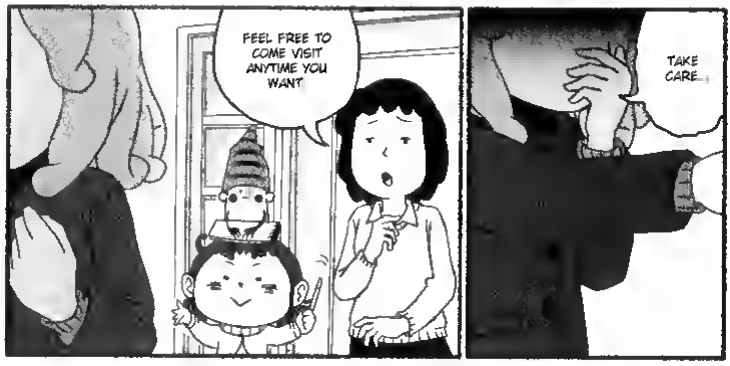
IT'S OKAY, LET'S GO, NAYUTA.
I CAN'T BE LATE...

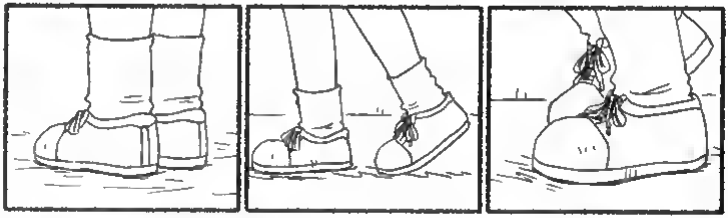
10

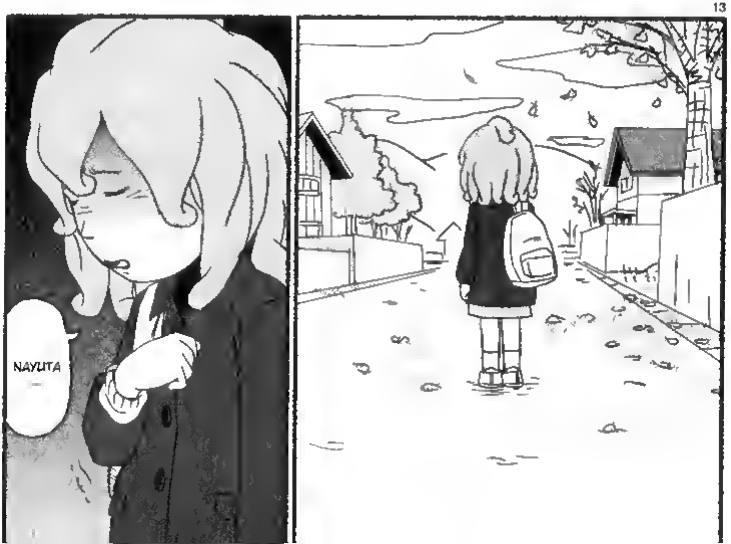

Y-YOUR NAME IS NAYUTA RIGHT!? N-NICE TO MEET YOU...
M-MY NAME IS KOUCHI-YAMA NORIKO! YOU CAN JUST CALL ME NORIKO!
JUST DO IT LIKE HOW YOU PRACTICED YESTERDAY.

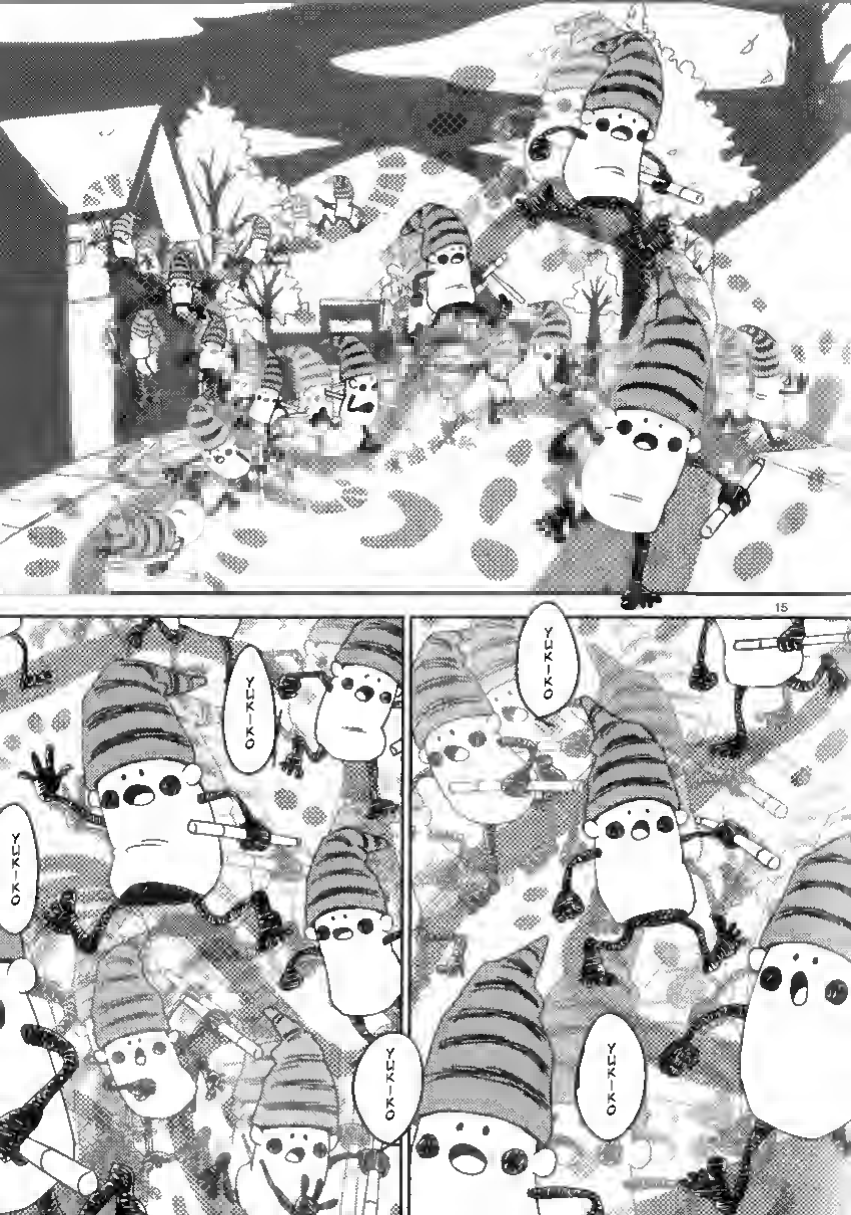
AHH!
HIM, HIM, HER, HIM, AND HIM! SEE, LOTS OF FRIENDS!
YOU'LL HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS IF YOU LIVE HERE.
WOW!
I'M NAYUTA. NICE TO MEET YOU., NORIKO.
AMA-ZING!
MOMMY, LOOK, LOOK!

THANKS FOR GIVING NAYUTA TO ME, SIS!
TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM, NORIKO.
SORRY, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT..
AH, YOUR PEN!
NAYUTA... I'LL COME SEE YOU AGAIN SOMETIME
12
IT WOULD BE VERY TROUBLING IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE YOUR PEN
THAT'S A RELIEF!
HERE!
JUST WAIT A SEC, I HAVE IT RIGHT..


FEEL FREE TO COME VISIT ANYTIME YOU WANT
TAKE CARE...



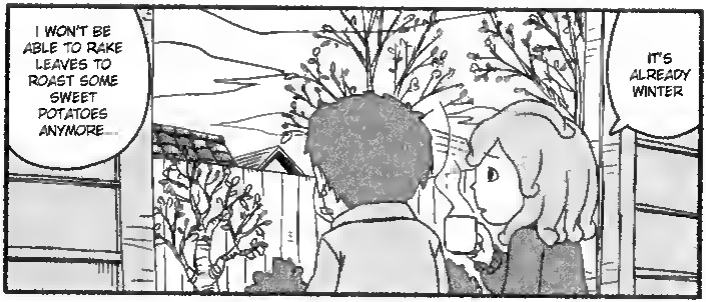

NAYUTA

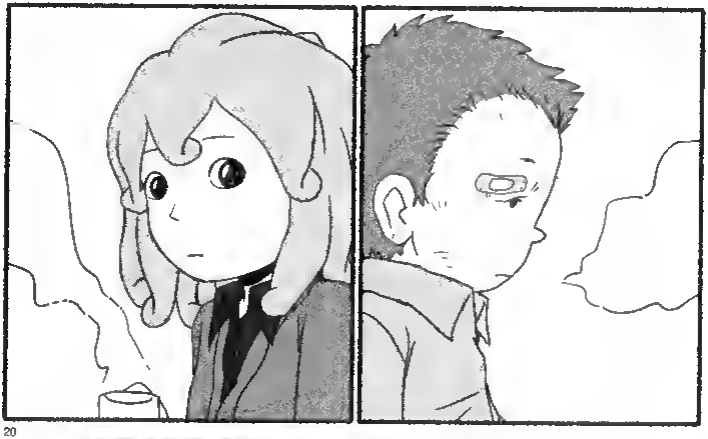

YUKIKO
YUKIKO
YUKIKO
YUKIKO
YUKIKO

YUKIKO
WAIT YUKIKO!
I STILL HAVE SOME-THING,
I NEED TO TELL YOU

I FINALLY SAW YOUR WORLD...
I SAW IT...
GOODBYE
GOOD BYE.

SANAE?
YUKIKO, SANAE'S HERE TO SEE YOU.
内科


I WON'T BE ABLE TO RAKE LEAVES TO ROAST SOME SWEET POTATOES ANYMORE...
IT'S ALREADY WINTER



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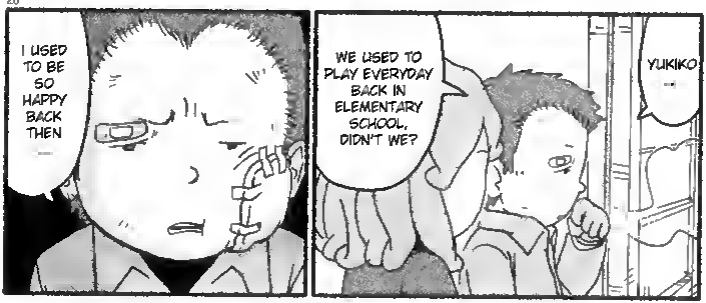
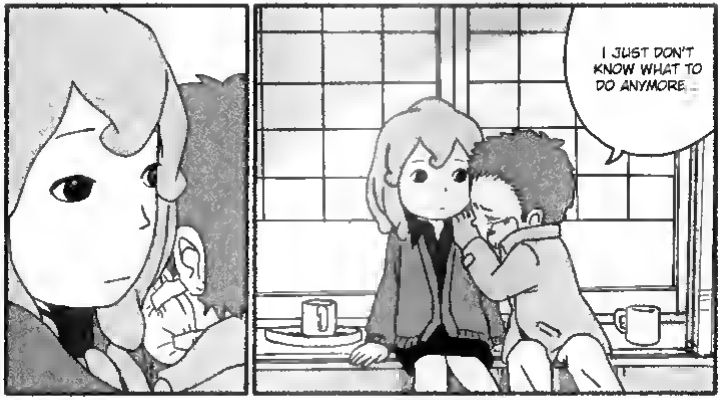
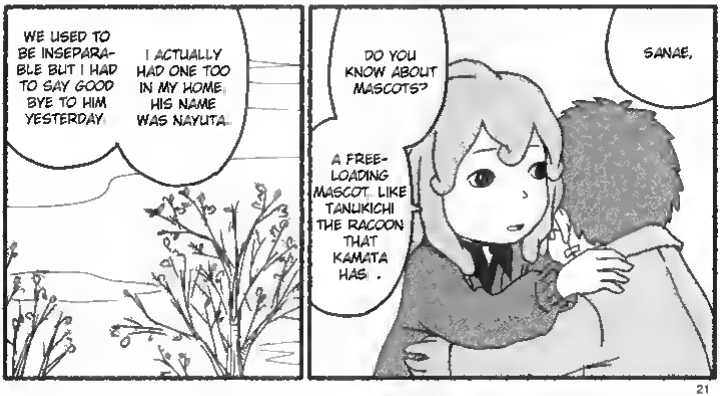
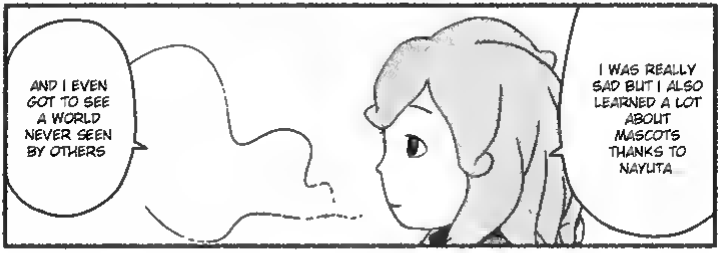

I USED TO BE SO HAPPY BACK THEN...
WE USED TO PLAY EVERYDAY BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, DIDN'T WE?
YUKIKO...

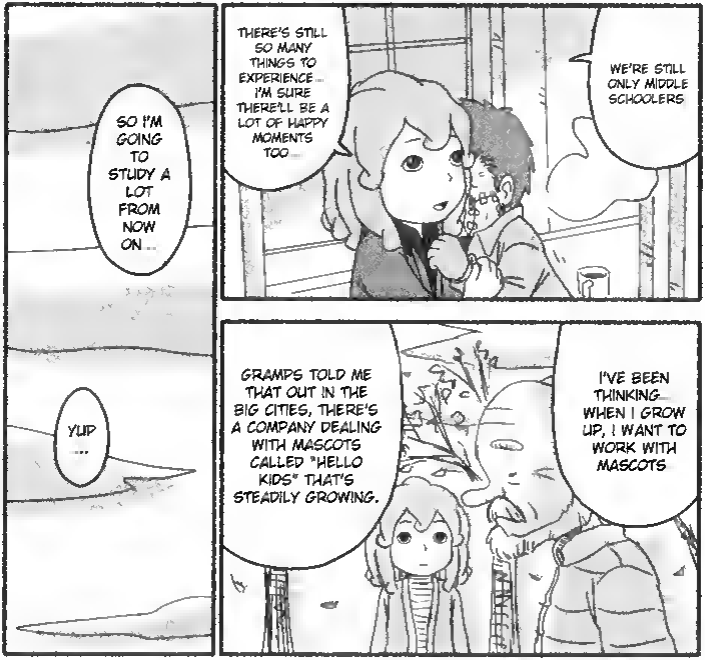

I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE...


WE USED TO BE INSEPARABLE BUT I HAD TO SAY GOOD BYE TO HIM YESTERDAY.
I ACTUALLY HAD ONE TOO IN MY HOME. HIS NAME WAS NAYUTA.
SANAE,
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MASCOTS?
A FREE-LOADING MASCOT. LIKE TANUKICHI THE RACOON THAT KAMATA HAS.


AND I EVEN GOT TO SEE A WORLD NEVER SEEN BY OTHERS
I WAS REALLY SAD BUT I ALSO LEARNED A LOT ABOUT MASCOTS THANKS TO NAYUTA.

YEAH...
I'M STILL WITH YOU, AREN'T I...?
SANAE EVEN IF TIME PASSES AND YOU'RE NO LONGER THE KID YOU USED TO BE...

22


SO I'M GOING TO STUDY A LOT FROM NOW ON...
YUP...
THERE'S STILL SO MANY THINGS TO EXPERIENCE... I'M SURE THERE'LL BE A LOT OF HAPPY MOMENTS TOO...
WE'RE STILL ONLY MIDDLE SCHOOLERS
GRAMPS TOLD ME THAT OUT IN THE BIG CITIES, THERE'S A COMPANY DEALING WITH MASCOTS CALLED "HELLO KIDS" THAT'S STEADILY GROWING.
I'VE BEEN THINKING... WHEN I GROW UP, I WANT TO WORK WITH MASCOTS

WHAT'S WRONG, YUKIKO?
IT'S BEEN AWHILE
HELLO NAYUTA

I'LL BE IN YOUR CARE FOR A LITTLE WHILE AGAIN.
I SAID GOOD BYE TO MY KID, SABUROU
OH NOTHING JUST REMI-NISCING
LET'S TAKE OUR TIME TO FIND YOUR NEXT HOME!
WELL,
I'M SURE IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD
I SEE

SHE JUST GAVE BIRTH TO HER THIRD BABY LAST WEEK
YUP. I STILL REMEMBER SANAE
JUST LEAVE EVERY-THING TO ME
GOT IT
THEN I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO SEE HER?
YUP.
SO SANAE'S MUCH BIGGER NOW?
24
IT'S ALREADY FALL...
WOULD YOU LOOK AT ALL THE FALLING LEAVES..

Mascot Profile

ID No	00002004
Mascot Type	Doll
Name	The Barefoot Nayuta

No Families Serviced	5
Special Skills	Stopping time, writing.
Favourite Food	Roasted sweet potatoes.
Motto	Time is money.
Preferred Family	None.
Message	Nayuta here!
Further Notes	A very unusual doll-type mascot that can only move when he stops time. *Currently under store #59's Ms. Sarashina's care.

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Translated by Hox

Mascot Profile

ID No.	00001216
Mascot Type	Racoon
Name	Tanukichi the Racoon

No. Families Serviced	41
Special Skills	Belly drumming, somersaults.
Favourite Food	Tanuki Soba
Motto	Start well and end well.
Preferred Family	A family that lives in a warm region and cooks delicious food
Message	Hello! Let's be good friends!
Further Notes	Your everyday racoon-type mascot. Very caring.

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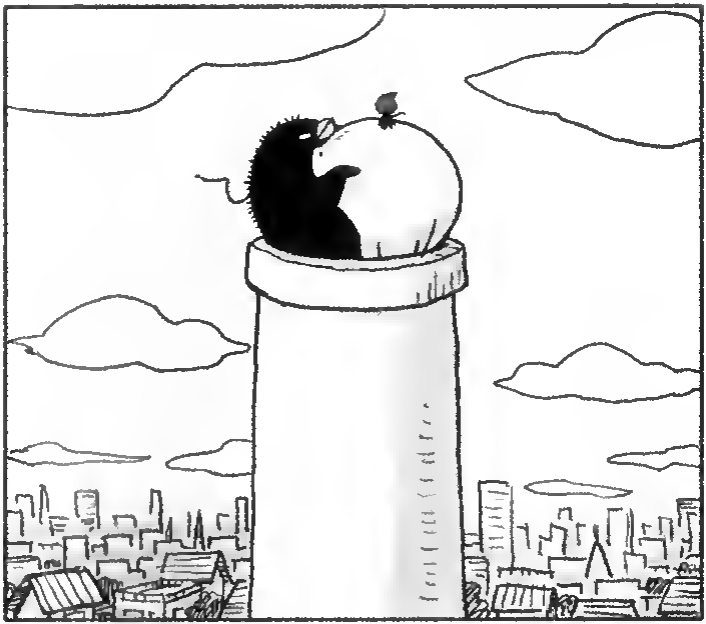
Translated by Hox

のらみみ大充実
いらっしゃいませ!
SORRY, WE'RE CLOSED TODAY. PLEASE COME AGAIN TOMORROW.
SIGH...
I WANT TO FIND A FAMILY SOON...
HANDA, SHOULDN'T YOU BE WORKING?
I AM. I JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR THEM TO ARRIVE
WE'RE HAVING SOME PEOPLE COME OVER TO SET UP SOME NEW EQUIPMENT FOR US.

YOU'VE SURE GOTTEN MUCH THINNER, CARPRAN
I BROUGHT SOME HEALTHY TOFU CAKES TO EAT!
DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT A CUS-TOMER
HEY THERE!
キイ
2
YOU'VE BEEN COMING OVER OFTEN LATELY.
OH HEY, BISUMARU!
NORAMIMI'S HEAD IS A COMFORTABLE SPOT TO SIT ON, YOU KNOW
AH, WHAT 'CHA EATING THERE? COOKIES?
スルスル
I JUST SAW SOMETHING VERY STRANGE
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.



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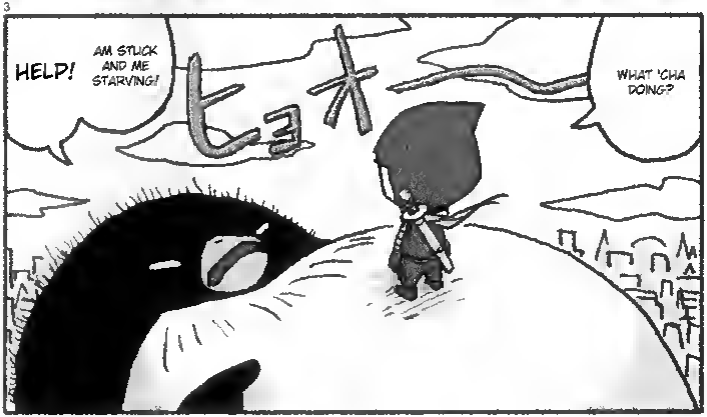

REALLY!?
CARPRAN, LET'S GO HELP HIM OUT. I'LL REWARD YOU WITH SOME DANGO IF YOU DO.
IS THAT SO? HE MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT HE SURE CAN FLY
HE'S GOTTEN HIMSELF STUCK IN THE CHIMNEY AND CAN'T MOVE.
4
AH, NORAMIMI
WHAT A CAREFREE LIFE YOU LIVE
半
SEE YA, HANDA. I MIGHT BE LATE SO LOCK THE DOOR WHEN YOU GO OUT.
ヒョイ
ヒョイ
ヒョイ
スイ

のらみみ大充実＝おしまい

TRANSLATED BY HOX